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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2008

# Residential Services renovates student housing

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

For students, the summer of 2008 meant work, the beach and vacation, but for Muhlenberg, the summer of 2008 meant major, much needed housing renovations.

One of the bigger housing projects that happened on campus this summer was full window replacement for all of the sorority houses and for the north face of Prosser Hall.

According to Aaron Bova, The Associate Director of Housing Services, "In addition to providing an easier to use and more aesthetically pleasing window, the new energy-efficient windows mean enormous energy and cost savings."

For Prosser, this is the second year of a three year phased project. Last year the west face of the building was complete and next year, the final year, the south face will be complete.

Additionally, the newer style windows can accommodate personal air conditioning units, which have come into higher demand each year. This summer was a big deal for Prosser as there were also hand dryers installed in the bathrooms. Bova says that "this installation is the first of many as we hope to roll this out to every hall" and that the

installation is a direct result of students advocating for hand dryers and soap in the bathrooms on campus over the last few years.

Bathrooms seemed to be the main focus of these numerous housing projects as Brown Hall, Benfer Hall, the 319/321 N 22nd Street apartments, and the Delta Zeta house all received updated bathroom facilities.

The Brown bathroom renovations are the second year of a three year project. Last year the third floor bathrooms were completed, this year the second floor and next summer the first floor will receive newly renovated bathrooms.

Brown Hall Head Resident Advisor, Gina Schumann '10, has high hopes for the effects of the new bathrooms. According to Schumann, "The Brown bathrooms definitely needed to be redone. I know last year we had broken tiles on the floor and inappropriate things carved in the doors, so it's nice to have a new, fresh start. I hope that since they are new and clean, the girls will respect it more and take better care of the space they live in."

The bathrooms were completely gutted and received all new tiles, fixtures, toilets, sinks, showers, stalls, and a fresh coat of paint.

The new Benfer bathrooms have

completed several years of upgrades to the suites and Bova expresses that "the project really helps to improve the look of Benfer suites. Before the renovations the bathrooms were really showing their age and were in desperate need of a facelift."

The same goes for the second floor bathroom in the Delta Zeta house. The shower pans were deteriorating, causing leaks into the first floor and according to Aaron Bova, the renovations to the second floor bathroom has solved that issue.

The last of the bathroom renovation happened in the 319/321 N 22nd Street apartments. All six apartments at this complex had full bathroom renovations meaning that they were completely gutted and received new tile, showers, fixtures, toilets, sinks, vanities, and painting.

The east side of campus also grabbed some attention this summer as all four floors of Martin Luther Hall were treated to a fresh coat of paint as well as all the rooms and halls of East Hall D-G. East was also treated to exterior brick/stone masonry restoration on a section of the west and south face of the building.

Bova says, "This very important project has spruced up the exterior look of East while also addressing the structural integrity of the building. The building is over one hundred years old and the brick was showing its age and needed restoration."



The energy efficient windows in Prosser are smart and easy to use.

PHOTO BY REBECCA UNGER

Students are also responding to the renovations with enthusiasm. Tara Mannino '10, who lived in East Hall last year and is living there again this year as an RA states, "East has always had so much character. That's the best part of living in a hundred-year-old building...it has decades of timeless beauty, that thanks to the new paint job and brick work, will be around for decades to come! Thanks for keeping the centennial masterpiece looking like new!"

One of the most significant improvements to happen on campus this year was the installment of a full kitchen to the Eve Elizabeth House, formerly AEPi, on 2228 Gordon Street C.A.S.E. will be occupying the property this year and in support of their successful programs, a kitchen - which the house did not have previously - is a necessity.

Residential Services is looking forward to completing the projects currently in action after the multitude of successful and exciting renovations this summer.



East Hall received a face lift on its south and west sides.

PHOTO BY REBECCA UNGER



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

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Executive Editor

## Alright, we admit it...

And we're back. Back at school, back at work, and back stressing out about life. And to add to it all, it's an election year, and we are constantly bombarded with politics. It is impossible to escape, but it is nice to be here at the 'Berg, where everyone, ahem, almost everyone, seems to have similar political views, and that is a good thing, isn't it?

Or maybe, it's all too similar. Eerily similar... tunnel vision that we need to step out of? And what is the solution to snap us out of our identities as "similar students" and into our identities as well-informed Americans? Would TV, Google, or heaven forbid a newspaper do the trick? We're not sure. But the most basic question we have to learn how to answer is, how do we know what to believe?

As we all know, the presidential candidates each announced their running mates recently, and with McCain's selection of Sarah Palin, the candidates are back in the game of gender politics. It is hard for us, as women, not to take an immediate liking to Palin simply from our inevitable shared experiences. But what does she really stand for?

Subconsciously, we may like a candidate, but there's a good chance we could never pinpoint why. And sometimes, we vote for a candidate because of the labels (Republican, Democrat, man, woman). Personally, we know people who feel so strongly that their candidate should win, but they have no idea why.

We wish there could be two columns: one with all the issues that are impacting American lives, and the other with each candidate's opinions. Then, as a sort of elementary school worksheet, we could match them up with squiggly lines. Unfortunately, it's not all that simple. We need to be more well-informed. There are people on this campus who know the issues backwards and forwards, but then there are others (ourselves included) who know very little. We admit it, which we hear is the first step to recovery.

So, pick up a newspaper this week. Or for that matter, look one up online. It's important to be able to sort out the hype from the real issues, and that's impossible without giving the facts a chance. This is going to be an exciting race, and we, at least, don't want to be left staring into space thinking, we're sorry we missed it.

## Do you know who you're voting for?

By Rachel Majkszak  
ASST. OP/ED EDITOR

Being the political science nerd that I am, I typically find myself engaged in conversation over one of society's greatest social taboos: politics. While I realize that most people don't share the same enthusiasm over the topic that I do, and I'm sure my friends and family are tired of hearing about my semester in Washington or listening to me ramble about key Congressional races this year, I am becoming increasingly shocked with the levels of apathy I've been witnessing.

*It is the basis of any Political Science 101 course - our nation is too big for everyone to make executive decisions, but we have the chance to elect those who make decisions for us.*

A few days before returning to the College, I was at a friend's house and I found myself in conversation with someone I had never met before when, sure enough, the conversation began drifting towards politics. I asked if he knew who one of his United States senators from his home state of Pennsylvania was, and his response was "I don't know, Dick Cheney?" Aside from myself, no one else in the room seemed shocked by our new friend's response. I could forgive him for not being able to identify his locally elected officials, but to confuse the Vice President of the United States with a senator from Pennsylvania? Now that's just pathetic.

I dared to take the conversation a step further and ask the daunting question hanging in front of us: Was he registered to vote? No, was his response, it's too much effort. And on top of that, he would have to fill out an absentee ballot form since he's away at school. I quickly launched into my lecture mode as I often do when I encounter one of my biggest pet peeves: voter apathy. Here we are, given the opportunity to make a difference in our country. It is the basis of any Political Science 101 course - our nation is too big for everyone to make executive decisions, but we have the chance to elect those who make decisions for us.

In 2004, only sixty-four percent of those eligible to vote for the next President of the United States did so. On top of that, only seventy-two percent of the voting age population was registered to vote. While these statistics have been increasing over recent years, there is still a decent percentage of the population not participating in our

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## Sarah Palin, a great choice

By Jason LaMarca  
WEEKLY WRITER

I guess I got lucky. After receiving space for a column in The Weekly, I had to find something worth writing about, and it fell right into my lap. On August 29th, John McCain presented Sarah Palin as his running for Vice-Presidential nominee. I was ecstatic with his selection, as I was hoping she was going to get the nod for several weeks, but assumed it was going to Romney.

For those of you who do not know who Sarah Palin is, let me fill you in. Sarah Palin is the forty-four year old governor of Alaska. She has twelve years of experience in government, six in the executive role of Mayor of Wasilla, Alaska, then another two as governor of her state.

Sarah Palin is a reformer of

impeccable credentials. From 2003-2004 she chaired the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. While serving in that capacity she discovered corruption by other Republican administrators. After not being able to resolve the issue via governmental channels, she resigned in protest and brought her case to the public. This led to the resignation of two other officials, with fines being levied against one of them.

*Sarah Palin is a reformer of impeccable credentials.*

In 2006 she ran on a conservative anti-corruption platform, defeating the morally dubious Republican governor during the primary. She then continued on to win the general election. As governor she called for the

now-indicted Republican senator from Alaska, Ted Stevens, to come clean about his shady financial dealings and supported a primary challenger against Don "bridge-to-

nowhere" Young. During her time in office she crossed party lines to gain Democratic support to pass an ethics reform bill. Sarah Palin stood up to Big Oil, scrapping a deal made by the former governor and forced an open bid for the pipeline contract. She shares McCain's distaste for pork and has vetoed over three hundred pork barrel projects in the state's budget.

She is a real member, lest we forget John "hunting" Kerry, of the NRA. A life-long hunter, she supports legislation that would actually allow people to have guns and use them in self-defense (shocking, I know).

Governor Palin is also a pro-life mother of five. She is neither apologetic nor hypocritical about this stance, as her last baby, Trig, was born with Down Syndrome which was discovered early in the

pregnancy. When asked about the experience, her response was simply, "I'm looking at him right now, and I see perfection. Yeah, he has an extra chromosome. I keep thinking, in our world, what is normal and what is perfect?"

In summation, Sarah Palin is a leader of whom Republicans can be proud. The Left has already started their attack against her: she's inexperienced (she has as much experience as Obama, with infinitely more executive experi-

ence); she's only getting the nod because she's a woman (I've already discussed her positives); her daughter's pregnant (and NOT ON THE BALLOT) and the greatest sin of all: she's religious (at least, unlike Obama's, her preacher doesn't think the government gave black people AIDS). From where I'm sitting I couldn't be happier about McCain's Vice-Presidential pick.

*During her time in office she crossed party lines to gain Democratic support to pass an ethics reform bill.*



# The presidential race



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

The obvious main topic in terms of covering politics over the next ten weeks will be the Presidential election. After a summer off from writing for *The Weekly*, here are some initial impressions on the race before getting into more detail over the next couple of months.

After watching the extended primary season and the events that took place over the summer, I feel that unless Barack Obama makes a major blunder, he is in pretty good shape. There is a certain energy around his campaign and around

every speech he makes, which oozes with confidence of victory. Yet, there is no such thing as a flawless candidate. The Republicans will rightly attack his lack of experience and idealism in conquering the large slate of problems George W. Bush has left America. Obama made a lot of promises at the Democratic National Convention, and it remains to be seen how pragmatic his ideas actually are.

John McCain has run a fairly weak campaign so far. He has struggled speaking and drawing excitement around his campaign. Beyond that, he has made a high amount of verbal blunders for somebody as experienced as himself, such as

referring to the Iraq/Pakistan border, which of course doesn't exist. The Republican nominee had a tough summer and didn't

come off well as he sat at a country club with George H.W. Bush, complaining about the attention his opponent receives, while Obama was speaking in front of massive crowds across Europe. His cam-

*There is a certain energy around his campaign which oozes with confidence of victory.*

paign has also foolishly tried to compare Obama to Paris Hilton or Britney Spears, in a childishly jealous advertisement. However, McCain is a seasoned political veteran with a strong military history, which means he has a chance to beat somebody as young and untested as Obama.

Obama's Vice Presidential choice made sense and was fairly predictable. He picked an older, experienced, more moderate politician than himself. Joe Biden has a strong history in foreign policy and won't hesitate to aggressively go after McCain on the campaign trail. McCain's choice was a bit of a surprise. Some people suggest Sarah Palin will swing disgruntled Hillary voters, although I don't buy that idea since her and Hillary couldn't be further apart on the issues. Palin's selection assuages the pro-life, evangelical wing of the Republican party due to her belief that an abortion is right under no circumstance, is for abstinence only education, and believes creationism should be taught in science classes. It certain-

ly couldn't thrill Republican strategists that Palin's seventeen year old daughter is pregnant with a child out of wedlock. However, the real problem with the selection is that it undermines McCain's accusation of Obama being inexperienced. Palin is now a heartbeat away from the Presidency, after spending a few years as the governor of Alaska and the mayor of a town with nine thousand residents.

The election should be a back and forth of Obama comparing McCain to Bush, and McCain calling Obama inexperienced. At this point, with a high majority of the country being disgruntled with our Republican President, it would be a major upset for another member of his party, with very similar voting records and issue stances to be elected. Yet, history suggests calling someone like Barack Obama a favorite against someone like John McCain is a little silly. It should be a close race and there certainly won't be a shortage of things to write about from here until November.

## VOTING

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democracy.

Some may argue that the lack of participation comes from a lack of knowledge. Others say they are glad not everyone votes - why do we want people that know nothing about the issues making decisions about who should be representing our interests? Lack of information about the issues is no excuse. There are plenty of opportunities to become informed and make an educated decision.

Due to the large amount of excitement on the campus when former President Clinton and Senator Barack Obama made an appearance here last year and the various political signs I've seen scattered around campus, I have faith that the Muhlenberg community is ready to be politically active in another pivotal election year. I encourage everyone to get informed about the issues, get to know the candidates and make an educated decision on who the next leader of our country should be. While you're at it, learn about your local representatives and members of Congress and have a say in who will be representing your voice, both at home and in Washington.

While the deadlines and procedure for voter registration vary slightly from state-to-state, the basic procedure involves simply filling out a form, which can usually be found online. A general overview of voter registration guidelines state-by-state can be found through Project Vote Smart at [www.votessmart.org](http://www.votessmart.org). The site provides a plethora of important voting information to learn about candidates and the issues, meet your elected officials and find links to register to vote and obtain an absentee ballot.

Political participation has become increasingly accessible for America's youth. We are on a vibrant campus full of peers and professors that are passionate about important issues. We have access to a wide variety of information to help us learn about the candidates and issues and plenty of occasions to get involved on campus and in the local community. Even Facebook proves to be a reliable tool by offering forums for political debate and the chance to profess your political obsessions online.

So the next time you find yourself mindlessly procrastinating, take a few minutes to make yourself familiar with the candidates and issues, register to vote or request an absentee ballot and get prepared to take part in American democracy.

*I have faith that the Muhlenberg community is ready to be politically active in another pivotal election year.*

## THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Freshmen break admissions record

By Ally Margolis  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

As with every incoming class, the class of 2012 has broken new bounds and set new records for future students to uphold. Looking back on the admissions process, we can all remember how grueling it was - from filling out the application, to eagerly waiting for those acceptance letters.

But aren't we all a little curious as to how we were accepted? How exactly did the admissions office look at all of this information?

After e-mailing with Dean Hooker-Haring, the following information was revealed:

This past year was the, "fourth record-large applicant pool in a row," according to Dean Hooker-Haring.

He said that the rising number of applications can be attributed to some wise moves on the College's part along with favorable demographics.

With the construction of the new science building, new residential facilities, the well-kept Multicultural Center, innovative programs in the departments of finance, film studies, public health, and African American studies, and a revamping of the Senior Experience, the College has attracted a record number of students.

In addition to that, the college-age population has dramatically increased nationwide for the past decade.

As this demographic pattern continues, it will only make the admissions process that much harder for future high school graduat-

ing classes.

This year's freshman class should be especially proud for starting that trend. The applicant pool consisted of 4,846 applications, up from last year's 4,703.

Half of the freshman class ranked in the top fifty-percent of their high school's graduating class, up from forty-seven percent last year. Submitted SAT scores increased as well, with critical reading scores of six hundred and six, math scores of six hundred and thirteen, and writing scores of six hundred and thirteen.

Along with impressive class ranks and exceptionally high SAT scores, the class of 2012 was admitted based on Muhlenberg's "whole person" evaluation.

The admissions office creates a file on each student who applies, consisting of the following high school records: grades, overall GPA, class rank, the kinds of classes and level of classes students take, and grade trends from ninth through twelfth grade.

Along with these qualities, the college looks to bring in students who are excited to get involved with things outside of the classroom. The admissions office seeks out those applicants who they know are going to strengthen the sense of community already present at the college.

So for you sophomores, juniors, and seniors who feel that freshman year is a thing of the past, please take a second look at the class of 2012. Not only have they set new records for the future of Muhlenberg, but they will make this year all the more exciting.

*"The admissions office seeks out those applicants who they know are going to strengthen the sense of community already present at Muhlenberg."*

Enjoy dinner and learn more about a free trip to Israel!



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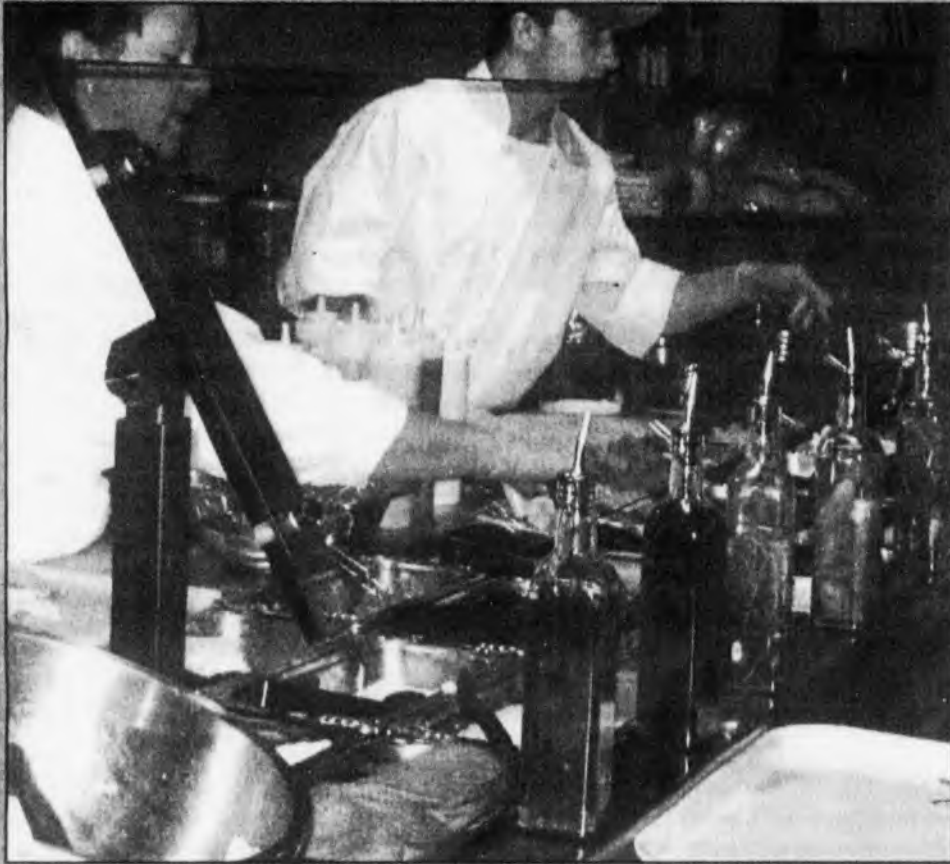
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# New sandwich station in the Garden Room



The new sandwich station in the Garden Room is convenient for students and opens up space for the salad bar to be more organized.

PHOTO BY REBECCA UNGAR

Have you noticed our  
organic and all natural  
choices in the GQ?



Albert's Organics






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Foods



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Own



## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Rain	Partly Cloudy
High: 85 Low: 65	High: 76 Low: 61	High: 82 Low: 57

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

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# Muhlenberg "goes green" with new recycling system

By Jana Elfenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

The College has changed its recycling program.

Now all recyclable items can be put into one bucket and later thrown into one large recycling bin. Recyclable items include all paper products, glass, aluminum, metal cans, corrugated cardboard, boxes, phone books, metal cans, hardback and paperback books, and plastic products.

This idea was initiated by the garbage company - Raritan Valley Disposal - that the college uses. Raritan Valley Disposal decided to change the way they collect and process garbage by operating a single-stream machine and the college was eager to follow their new system.

This single-stream process begins once all of the trash is at the

Materials Recovery Facility, where all of the mixed recyclables are then organized. The mixed recyclables are compartmentalized on conveyor belts by magnets, air blowers, optical scanners, and screens. After this process is completed, the separated recyclables are sold to recycled product companies and made into recycled matter including glass, paper and plastic products, and cardboard.

Raritan Valley Disposal, along with the college, is hoping that more students will recycle now that there is less work for them to complete the task.

It was reported that in 2007, Muhlenberg recycled three hundred and eighty-seven tons of cans and bottles, two hundred and sixty three tons of paper and cardboard, and threw away approximately six hundred and eighty-nine tons of waste that was destined for the landfill.

However, it has been noted that ten percent of the college's trash is made up of waste that could have been recycled.

Cara Owens, the Sustainability Coordinator and NSF/CRUI Participant & Web Manager says, "Muhlenberg College also 'closes the loop' by purchasing products with recycled content."

Furthermore, she believes that students will abide by the new recycling system by saying, "I think not having to separate items will make it easier to participate and I expect our recycling rates will rise even further."

There are numerous reasons why recycling is essential. First, recycling saves natural resources. Half of the Earth's forests are gone and up to ninety-five percent of the original forest area in the United States has been teared down. By creating new products with recycled material

we are able to lower the need for using nonrenewable resources.

Next, recycling helps maintain wildlife habitats. When cutting down a forest, you are not only destroying the trees and the land, but also the wildlife living in that forest is affected.

Further, recycling helps curtail global warming by reducing the energy needed in the manufacturing process. It takes less energy to create recycled products compared to producing the original material. Recycling also saves landfill space by taking the used materials and creating new products instead of dumping them in a landfill. Finally, creating new products with the recycled material produces less air and water pollution.

So Muhlenberg students, let's do our part to make our community as green as it can be - RECYCLE!

## Campus Safety Notes

Aug 22 - Other offenses - Two non-student white males, Christopher Lopez and Anthony Santiago, arrested for student prowling and loitering after dark on Liberty Street.

Aug 22 - Medical - Student tripped over coolers on North twenty sixth street but refused assistance and transportation.

Aug 22 - Medical - Student in ML Hall found vomiting in bathroom due to alcohol. Student was transported to hospital.

Aug 22 - Dispatch - Shot gun shell found between Brown Hall and Walz Hall during move-in. It was believed to have fallen from a vehicle.

Aug 23 - Theft - Two tables stolen from Chapel from Registration.

Aug 23 - Vandalism - Vandalism to student vehicle on twenty second Street. There are no suspects at this time.

Aug 23 - Liquor Law - Two female students were under the influence staggering on north twenty second street due to alcohol consumption. They were referred to the Judicial process.

Aug 23 - Dispatch - Mark

Cassera was found vomiting on north twenty third street and was arrested by APD for public drunk, carrying false ID, and underage drinking. He was referred to the Judicial process.

Aug 24 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation in Walz Hall on second floor. There were several students in the room and they were referred to the Judicial process.

Aug 24 - Vandalism - Broken glass on fire extinguisher in Walz Hall on second floor. Referred to Judicial process.

Aug 24 - Vandalism - Broken concrete parking barrier on Back Drive. There is no suspect at this time.

Aug 24 - Medical - Student in Brown Hall was transported to St. Lukes for a cut toe.

Aug 25 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off on Chew Street while students were making breakfast.

Aug 25 - Traffic - Motor vehicle accident at Liberty Street and Leh Street.

Aug 25 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off on Gordon Street while cooking.

Aug 26 - Theft - Water sprinkler stolen from Northwest corner of college.

There is no suspect at this time.

Aug 26 - Theft - Stolen copper downspouts on Chew Street. Suspect is a white male in his 20's, 5'6", 160 lbs, with a scruffy face, blue bandana, and was seen driving an older forest green sedan.

Aug 26 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off in South Hall due to burnt popcorn.

Aug 27 - Dispatch - Key was lost in Life Sports Center that opens Powerhouse Café.

Aug 27 - Investigative - suspicious male hiding in the bushes in the Village. Suspect is short and stocky, hispanic and was wearing a white hat, t-shirt and sneakers.

Aug 27 - Dispatch - Key was lost from third floor Moyer that opens Philosophy Department. The key has since been located.

Aug 27 - Medical - Sick student in East Hall transported to hospital.

Aug 28 - Theft - Stolen purse from Life Sports center. There is no suspect at this time.

Aug 28 - Theft - Stolen wallet in Red Door. There is

no suspect at this time.

Aug 28 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off on Chew Street due to steam from cooking.

Aug 28 - Noise Complaint - Noise complaint on Leh Street. The area has since been cleared.

Aug 29 - Vandalism - Vandalism to vehicle parked in twenty sixth and Chew Street lot.

Aug 29 - Investigative - Suspicious activity in Walz Hall on third floor concerning alleged student activity.

Aug 29 - Liquor Law - Underage drinking in ML Hall on third floor. Involved persons were referred to the Judicial process.

Aug 30 - Traffic - DUI related motor vehicle accident on Albright Street. Non-student Linde Raab was arrested for DUI.

Aug 30 - Liquor Law - Brian Frankoski arrested by APD for underage drinking.

Aug 30 - Medical - Injured student in Brown Hall on first floor had cut on leg. Refused further treatment.

Aug 30 - Plant Operations - Housekeeper stuck in elevator in Life Sports Center.

Aug 30 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation in Walz Hall on third floor. Involved persons were referred to the Judicial process.

Aug 30 - Vandalism - Vandalism by students in fire lane between Brown Hall and Walz Hall.

Aug 30 - Medical - Student had a seizure in Seegers Union, student refused treatment.

Aug 30 - Plant Operations - People stuck in elevator in Life Sports Center.

Aug 31 - Medical - Student injured shoulder in Prosser Hall.

Aug 31 - Medical - Sick student was locked out of apartment on Chew Street.

Aug 31 - Noise - Noise complaint on North Leh Street.

Aug 31 - Disorderly Conduct - Disorderly conduct by student in Prosser Hall concerning another student.

Aug 31 - Investigative - Roommate conflict in Prosser Hall. Students referred to ORS.

Aug 31 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off on Chew Street due to heat.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"Where there is love, there is life."  
-Gandhi

## The best in movies...so far

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

1. **In Bruges:** Writer/Director Martin McDonagh came up with the idea for this film while he was traveling through the town of Bruges in Belgium. Half of him loved the culture of Bruges while the other half was "bored to tears" by the architecture. Brendan Gleeson and Colin Farrell play Ken and Ray, hit men hiding out after a job gone horribly wrong.

Gleeson and Farrell are as entertaining a pair of hit men on screen since Vincent and Jules discussed French cheeseburgers in *Pulp Fiction*. Ralph Fiennes plays a psychotic crime boss who adds a sinister twist to the film.

But this is Gleeson's career performance as the interesting, sincere and articulate hit man. McDonagh is a renowned playwright known for using excessive violence in his plays. He saves almost all of the violence for the end of the film in the graphic climax. *In Bruges* provides a unique trip through the town as we meet many different personalities which makes this the most genuine and enjoyable film of the year so far.

2. **Reprise:** It is rare that a film captures the thought processes of the young and the restless so well but this dazzling Norwegian film nails it. The story centers on two young writers, Philip and Erik, who are looking to get their manuscripts published.

Every scene in *Reprise* is subject to revisions, flashbacks, flash forwards and voiceover commentary. First time writer and director, Joachim Trier, announces his arrival to the film industry with this refreshingly original movie and brings exuberance to the film that is truly enjoyable to watch. *Reprise* has a smart and meaningful script that will compel audiences to reflect on themselves at that age.

3. **The Dark Knight:** Long gone are the Adam West and Tim Burton versions of Batman. Christopher Nolan has created a new, darker version of Batman for a new generation. *The Dark Knight* was one of the most highly anticipated films of the year and it did not disappoint. A follow-up to the 2005 success *Batman Begins*, this film is sensational, sinister, foreboding in atmosphere and certainly not for kids under twelve years old.

Thanks especially to a remarkable performance by the late Heath Ledger as the Joker, this is one of the most beautifully crafted entertainments of the year. The dizzying depiction of Gotham City nearing total anarchy it presents isn't like any other *Batman* film put on screen. Christian Bale does a decent job as Bruce Wayne and Batman, which is enough for this film. What makes all *Batman* movies unique is that the most interesting characters in them are the villains. Ledger provides an unnerving and chilling portrayal of the Joker that deserves an Oscar nomination. Not surprisingly, this film smashed box office records like Michael Phelps smashed Olympic records.

4. **Encounters at the End of the World:** Over the course of making more than fifty films and documentaries, Werner Herzog has done everything from drag a steamboat over the top of a mountain in the Amazon jungle to eating his own shoe to even being shot, so it should come as no surprise that he has now traveled to Antarctica to make his latest documentary. In most of his movies, Herzog portrays characters that are searching for something; in

*Fitzcarraldo* for impossible solutions and in *Little Dieter Needs to Fly* to overcome the past. *Encounters* is about people who are looking for something at the "end of the world." Herzog also includes fantastic footage of the landscape, above and below the ice. This movie is probably not for everyone but it will spark the interest of the adventurer in you.

5. **The Bank Job:** Roger Donaldson's fast paced, action packed heist thriller provided the most fun at the movies I've had in a long time. Based on the true story of the biggest bank robbery in British history, *Bank Job* provides a fictional account of the robbery and why no arrests were ever made and no money was ever recovered. Jason Statham seamlessly slips into the role of Terry Leather, a car dealer turned bank robber who looks as if he can win a bar fight without spilling his drink.

The robbery itself does not occupy much screen time as the events surrounding it are the main focal point of the movie. *Bank Job* should appeal to anyone who wants to have an old-fashioned good time at the movies.

## The Great Allentown Fair



The Great Allentown Fair, which took place this past week, was fun for all ages. Students, children and parents alike enjoyed the exhibits, the animals, the rides, the concerts, which featured some big names, and of course the food.

PHOTOS BY REBECCA UNGER



# I wanna l-l-l-lick you from your head to your toes...

By Samantha Jackson  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

It is obvious that there are guys who enjoy going down and there are definitely guys who shy away from this wondrous pleasure. There are even those girls who feel self-conscious about a man going down. If we have to "slob their knob" so to speak, then why shouldn't they return the favor? It's an interesting question to pose.

A problem associated with this task is the question of hygiene. Most men enjoy going down on their girl if she is clean and fresh. If she isn't as fresh as she should be she usually knows and won't allow

her man to go down. So men don't worry!

When the woman is in perfect hygienic condition there should be minimal taste and smell. If you expect her to swallow your ejaculation then you better be intent on doing the same for her.

It is a very natural and enjoyable thing for both parties if you just let it happen. Check the internet for tips and play by plays for the most exciting ways to pleasure your woman if you are questioning your skills in this matter.

You should experience it at least once if you've never tried pleasing your

girl in this way. Who knows, you may end up loving it.

If you're worried about not living up to certain expectations then try it out on somebody you care about who can teach you the ropes.

I'm sure you experienced this while receiving your first dose of fellatio. By getting her the right way she'll definitely show her enthusiasm either moaning, screaming, or shaking; probably the three most common ways of sexual enjoyment.

Men are most always more rough than women

want, so be cautious and when she tells you she wants it harder then give it to her harder.

Start off slow and work your way until the big O. There are some women out there who can only orgasm from oral sensation so make sure you get her there at least some of the time. A tip on how to accentuate the senses is to have a mint of some sort before going down.

After looking for the perfect book on this topic I found *The Low Down on Going Down: How to Give Her Mind-Blowing Oral Sex* by Marcy Michaels and Marie Desalle.

This should basically cover the topic... at least, for now.

LOVE  
&  
LIFE

## WRITE FOR LIFE!

To become involved with the weekly contact:

Luanne Linares  
weeklyeditor@gmail.com

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT BEING BACK AT THE 'BERG?



"The campus."  
- Maggie Scarpelli, '12



"Diversity."  
- Ashley Baratta, '12



"The mountains."  
- Mark Adams, '12



"Finally seeing my friends and cooking in my own kitchen."  
- Meghan Meehan, '09



"The community atmosphere."  
- Jackie Dearborn, '09

## Carmike Weekend Listings



### The Dark Knight

Fri. 2:00, 5:20, 8:30  
Sat. 2:00, 5:20, 8:30  
Sun. 2:00, 5:20, 8:30

### Babylon A.D.

Fri. 5:30, 7:50, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 7:50, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 7:50, 10:30

### College

Fri. 7:10, 10:30  
Sat. 7:10, 10:30  
Sun. 7:10, 10:30

### Pineapple Express

Fri. 4:30, 9:40  
Sat. 4:30, 9:40  
Sun. 4:30, 9:40

### Tropic Thunder

Fri. 4:20, 7:30, 10:10  
Sat. 4:20, 7:30, 10:10  
Sun. 4:20, 7:30, 10:10

### The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants

Fri. 1:30, 7:00  
Sat. 1:30, 7:00  
Sun. 1:30, 7:00

### Death Race

Fri. 5:00, 7:20, 9:50  
Sat. 5:00, 7:20, 9:50  
Sun. 5:00, 7:20, 9:50

### Disaster Movie

Fri. 5:10, 7:40, 10:00  
Sat. 5:10, 7:40, 10:00  
Sun. 5:10, 7:40, 10:00



# Honesty with Jay Brannan

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Described by many as a "stripped down male version of Alanis Morissette," New York singer/songwriter Jay Brannan has slowly been making a name for himself with legions of loyal fans as the next big thing on the indie music scene. With only word of mouth, some home-made YouTube videos, and a few concerts as his publicity, his self-released debut album premiered at number twenty-five on the overall iTunes charts, as well as number two on the folk charts. Currently on tour promoting the record, Jay took time out to talk to me about his music, his critics, and what exactly it means to be Jay Brannan.

**AN: You are one of the most outspoken, honest, and risky songwriters I've ever heard, with your raw lyrics ranging from topics such as relationships, sex, politics, and religion. You're not afraid of embarrassing yourself or singing about things that many songwriters would find too shocking or controversial to sing about. That being said, is there ever a point where you're afraid of exposing too much in your music?**

JB: I don't think so. I mean honestly if there was something I really didn't want exposed I probably would even just subconsciously not really write about it. What I do is my way of having a voice kind of, and getting these thoughts out of my head that have been racing around in there for years and years. It's my way of venting and sort of just saying all these things.

I say them because I want to and I've kind of just found that being open and honest about things and not having any secrets is just way easier than walking around sort of being embarrassed about things and keeping things to yourself.

It's that many less things people can discover about you or bring up before you do or throw in your face or whatever. So I just think it's easier not to keep secrets. I don't really care if people know about me, you know, so it's more of about getting to say what I want to say.

**AN: So you named your first full-length debut album "Goddamned" after one of the tracks on the record. Why was the album named after this particular song, and given the critical religious themes of this song, have you had to deal with a lot of backlash from religious groups or anything because of it?**

JB: Well, I chose this as the title track because it's one of the newer songs when I went to record the

album so it was kind of fresh for me in that way. Also it's just one of the most meaningful tracks on the album to me. I was raised very kind of religious and conservative in Texas, so the whole sort of, honestly what I see as a plague of religion is very personal to me - it's affected me in a very personal way and it's affected millions of people in the same way.

It's pretty much ripped apart our world for thousands of years on very global and political levels. I just kind of like the way it sounds as a title and it could also mean a lot of other different things. I like when there's a title of a collection of something that could have several different meanings or be open to interpretation. I was just like "god-damned" is the perfect word to describe me too, the way that people have sort of viewed me in my life or the way that I view myself sometimes.

It has this sort of tainted, broken connotation to it and so I was just into it. Other people like my management and stuff were like "we just want you to know that if you use that title, you probably won't get picked up at Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, and Circuit City." And I was just like "well, when have I ever done something keeping in mind that corporate headquarters of whatever commercial Middle-American chains would be into or sign on for what I'm doing?"

I've never let anyone tell me what to do so why would I start now? Like if that's what I want to call the album and that's my instinct, that's what I'll call the album. If people want to sell it or buy it or write about it then they can and if they don't want to then I don't care, you know? As far as getting shit from people, it's not a whole lot.

I mean I have been reading some of my iTunes reviews and I have gotten a few reviews from people where they'll give me one star, which is the lowest review. They've said like "it's just not fair that I have to log onto iTunes and read this offensive title every time that I'm shopping."

They're like reviewing my album when they haven't even heard it, and they didn't even listen to the song. I mean that's so typical of those types of people, they're so offended by something they haven't even explored. If you listen to the song, the way that I use the word "god-damned" is so not offensive, you know what I mean? It's condemning the war and the conflict that's caused by all of that.

That's the thing about people that subscribe to these sorts of religious and traditional ideals to me. It's like they're brainwashed and believing certain things but these beliefs are never really thought through with

logical conclusion or fully explored, and that's the really sad part about it.

**AN: You received a huge fan-base online, whether it was people who listened to your music on your MySpace site or people who tuned in to watch your regular YouTube videos of you performing into the camera in your computer. Did the rapid generation of this fan-base add a lot of pressure when it came time to record a full length album?**

JB: Um, I never really think about that in terms of what I'm doing creatively or artistically. I just sort of do what I want to do. I can't really say I do it for other people. There definitely was pressure but the pressure came from the idea that I've never recorded before and I'd never done anything with other instruments.

I had to learn to play to a quick track, which is really difficult for me because I've never been accountable to other people or keeping a certain beat or whatever. Everything I could do could sort of just be very instinctual, and recording turns music a little more into math and science in a way, so that was a challenge.

Then the fact that I was spending pretty much all of my savings, there was kind of pressure financially. From the business side of things, I started working with a manager, an agent, and these publicists now, so I do kind of feel accountability to other people.

I wouldn't say that the pressure comes from my MySpace friends or the people that are connecting to my music, that's where the support comes from.

**AN: As an openly gay singer, why do you think that so many celebrities are afraid of coming out of the closet? Take Lance Bass for instance - he waited until years after NSYNC was over to admit that he was gay. There really are no openly gay young mainstream radio artists out there today, so what about being homosexual do you think causes so many musicians and actors to hide their true identities when they're in the limelight?**

JB: I think it's a complicated thing. There are different types of stigmas from different groups in terms of being gay or straight. I think the bottom line is that people are obsessed with it.

In the past, it's sort of been nobody wanted to say because then nobody would take you seriously, or heterosexual people would view you differently or wouldn't accept you or relate to you or whatever. I feel like that's kind of changing because gay people are being shown more in TV and film, and it's still a little cliché and a little bit stereotypical, but at

least entertainment is helping the world to acknowledge that gay people even exist.

But my dilemma is almost the opposite of that. It's like because I'm not trying to hide it and I'm just a gay person who doesn't filter that or change the pronouns in his lyrics or something, I'm almost pushed into the gay corner by gay people because they're so desperate for an openly gay whatever. I always get called the "gay musician" just because they want something to sort of hold onto in that way. It sucks though, it's like I don't want to be ...

I think it's time that gay people should be able to be who they are and sleep with whoever they want and sing about whoever they want but not necessarily have to be genre-fied, and like pushed into the "gay genre." We can be real people just like anyone else.

I've never stopped to say "oh I can't relate to Regina Spektor's songs because she's a woman singing about a man, and I just don't get it because she keeps saying 'she' and 'he' and I'm gay." All people are basically the same at the end of the day. We all go through the same things and we all have the same experiences on a basic human level, and I don't think pronouns really affect that.

I don't want to play pride parades for the rest of my life. I don't think about being gay, I just am who I am and I don't want to talk about it anymore. I feel like I'm sort of ten years passed it even being an issue and other people haven't really caught up yet. My goal is just for it not to be an issue, in a good way or a bad way, I just don't think it should matter.

**AN: So given all the changes in your life and now that you've released your debut album and are playing shows at larger, more prestigious venues, where do you hope to see yourself a year from now and what can we expect from Jay Brannan in the future?**

JB: I'd definitely like to pursue more film. I want to keep doing the music thing. Honestly, I try not to think that far ahead because I feel like I can't really control the future, I can only sort of do what I'm doing now and take one step at a time.

I don't even know if I'm going to want to be doing this in a year or if anybody else is going to want me to be doing it in a year. I think it's too much pressure to look that far in the future so I kind of do what I'm doing now and I'll sort of ride it as far as it goes and we'll see what happens really...

**AN: Alright, well thank you so much for taking the time out to talk to me, I really appreciate it.**

JB: Yeah! Thank you!



# When will we finally throw out the pre-season rankings?

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

This weekend was the start to the college football season and, like every year, there were big upsets. The day started with two upsets, when East Carolina beat #17 Virginia Tech 27-22, and Bowling Green shocked #25 Pittsburgh 27-17. The game of the weekend was #24 Alabama against #9 Clemson in the Georgia Dome. It seems like every year the Clemson Tigers are overrated and that proved to be true as the Crimson Tide dismantled the Tigers 34-10.

In 2007, three teams that were in the pre-season top 25 had no business being there, and three teams who started outside the top 25 made significant impacts on the college football world. Let's start with Michigan. The Wolverines started the season at #5 and proceeded to lose their first two games to Appalachian St, a Division I FCS team, and Oregon. Both these losses came in the "Big House," which is one of the toughest venues to play at in college football. Michigan finished the season 9-4 and upset #9 Florida in the Citrus Bowl.

However, this season did lead to the dismissal of Lloyd Carr, Michigan's coach for the past 13 seasons. Louisville, you're next. The Cardinals started the season at #10 and laughed against Murray State and Middle Tennessee State helped the Cards move up to #9 in the polls. Then Louisville began to play to their true potential. Louisville finished the season at 6-6 including a home loss to Syracuse, who only had 2 wins last year.

The final team that had no reason being ranked in the top 25 before the season was the UCLA Bruins. UCLA started 2-0 and jumped up to #11 in the rankings before getting crushed by Utah 44-6. Two more wins for UCLA got them back to #25 and then a home loss to Notre Dame, who finished the season at 3-9, started the downward spiral for the Bruins. UCLA finished the season at 6-7 and because of this, Karl Dorrell was fired as the Bruins coach.

The Missouri Tigers started the 2007 season on no one's radar but after a couple of games, people started recognizing them. Mizzou started the season 5-0 including a 41-6 pounding of #23 Nebraska. The Tigers lost to Oklahoma on Oct. 13 and then won 6 straight games, giving them the #1 spot in the nation. Missouri lost the Big 12 title game but finished the season 11-2 and #5 in the country. The Kansas Jayhawks, known mainly for their basketball program, finished with a 12-1 record, #7 final rank, and a BCS bowl win over Virginia Tech.

The final team who shocked the rankings was a young Illinois team. No one would have every thought that Ron Zook's Illini squad would be in a BCS bowl before the season, but they took on the USC Trojans in the Rose Bowl. Illinois finished the season 9-4 with a #20 ranking.

Is there a solution to this problem? Why not have no *official* rankings until the 4th week of the season. Just a thought.

**Apply to the Weekly!**

**Join us for a brief informational meeting on Thurs., Sept. 4 or Thurs., Sept. 11 at 3:30 in The Red Door Cafe**

**Contact Luanne at WeeklyEditor@gmail.com**

## Sports Schedule

### Field Hockey

Fri., Sept. 5 vs. Hartwick, 7:00

### Women's Soccer

Fri., Sept. 5 vs. Elmira, 7:00

Sat., Sept. 6 vs. Scranton, 4:00

### Volleyball

Fri., Sept. 5 Buttermaker Tournament vs. King's, 4:00,

vs. Medaille, 8:00

Sat., Sept. 6 Buttermaker Tournament, 10:00

Wed., Sept. 10 vs. DeSales, 7:00

### Football

Sat., Sept. 6 vs. Wilkes, 7:00

### Men's Soccer

Sat., Sept. 6 at New York University, 2:00

Wed., Sept. 10 vs. Wilkes, 7:00



## Muhlenberg Volleyball comes in second to open season

By Matthew Howard  
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming into this  
season the  
Muhlenberg

Volleyball Team had not beaten rival Moravian in eight years. The Mules (3-1) opened this season at the Greyhound Premier Invitational at Moravian.

The Mules opened the Tournament on a sour note by losing to the eventual champion, Richard Stockton College. The Mules had no time to dwell on their loss because they had to play Moravian later that day. Junior Liz Dean led the team with nine kills while Senior Megan Eisner led the team with 27 assists. The Mules swept the three-set match for the first time in school history. When asked about the victory, Dean said, "Our team goal was the beat Moravian. We're excited that we were able to keep a goal that we made as a team."

Muhlenberg finished second in the tournament, their best finish in any Tournament since they won the 2005 Buttermaker Tournament. The Mules have a lot to look forward to this fall, especially since Dean is their top returning hitter.

**Sophomore Caitlin Dombkowski (left) recorded a career high six kills against Moravian; Junior Liz Dean (right) paced the Mules with nine kills against Moravian.**

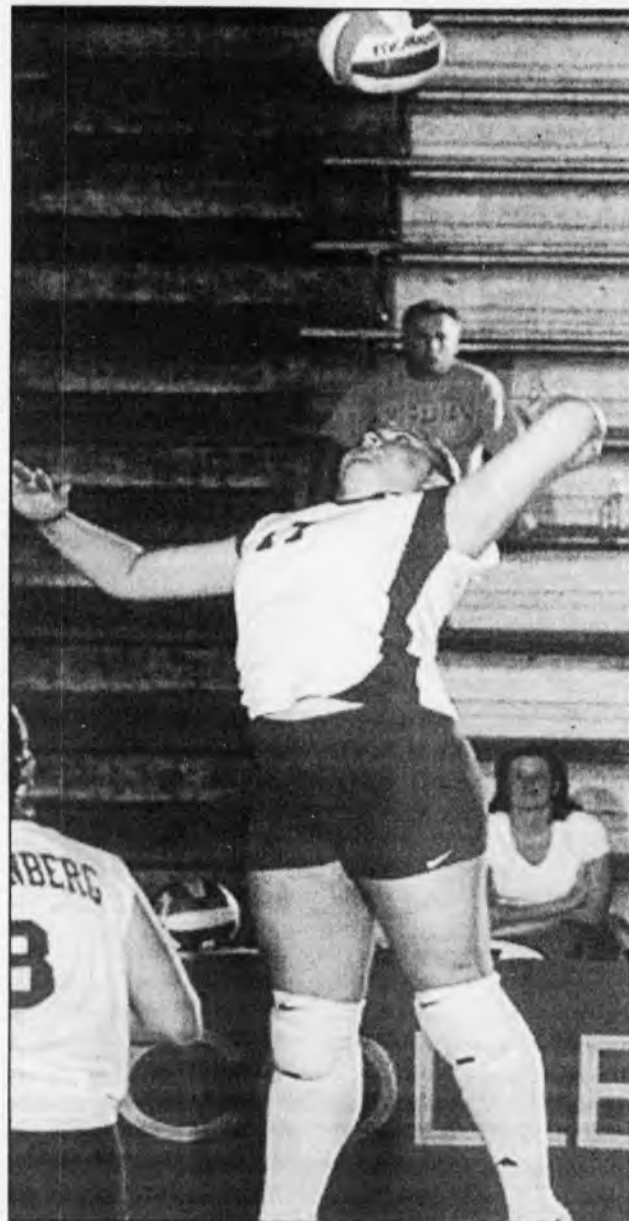


PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Cross Country Mules are young and ready to run

By Victoria Davis  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

This season, the Cross Country Team is looking very young, but very promising. With a total of 10 freshmen and 17 sophomores, the team is excited about their potential not only for this season, but for the seasons to come.

This year, the Men's Cross Country Team received one vote in the national Division III poll. Also, the Mules are ranked 6th in the Mideast Region.

On Sat., Aug. 30, the team was ready to begin their season as they took off at the Lehigh Valley Championships. In the first meet of the 2008 season,

the Mules showed great promise and depth for the new year as the freshmen and sophomores had strong showings (for the men's team, the junior and senior runners didn't participate in preparation for future races).

The women finished in fourth place and the men finished fifth out of five total teams, but the Mules are happy overall with their performances.

Leading the women was sophomore Kim Bier, while sophomore Ryan Wilson led the men. Coming up for the Muhlenberg Cross Country Team is the Mule/Falcon Classic at Cedar Crest on Sat., Sept. 13.



**The rejuvenated Muhlenberg Cross Country Team is looking for a bounce-back year.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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Starts Season Strong  
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## Reigning Conference champs ready to hit the field this Saturday

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

After a historic season last year, the Muhlenberg Football Team is excited for the season to start this Sat. against the Wilkes Colonels. Last season, the Mules compiled a record of 11-1 including the first ever undefeated regular season and outright Centennial Conference title in school history. The Mules finished the season ranked #8 in the country, according to D3football.com, and made it to the second round of the NCAA playoffs. However, the team knows that is all in the past and this season the Mules won't be able to sneak up on anyone. "We know we've got a bulls eye on our chest this season," senior captain Dave Mazzola stated. "We are just going to take it one game at a time."

If winning the Conference Championship wasn't enough, the Mules have been ranked in 4 pre-season polls: *Lindy's* #22, *Sporting News* #7, D3football.com #8, and *USA Today Sports Weekly* #9. Also, Muhlenberg was picked to take home the Conference title again by the Centennial Conference pre-season poll.

The Mules' offense is ready to rock come Sat. as they return 10 of 11 starters, including pre-season All American Mike "Tiny" Nolan. Nolan '09, the starting center and one of four captains on the squad this year, was picked as a pre-season All American by *Sporting News* and D3football.com. "I felt a little pressure in the beginning of camp," Nolan commented about the pre-season

accolades. "But once I got started it was business as usual."

Last season Nolan anchored the Mules offensive line and received 1st Team All-Conference for the second straight year. Taking the snaps from Nolan will be 3rd year starter and captain Eric Santigato. Santigato had a breakthrough year last season, completing 63% of his pass attempts, connecting for 15 touchdowns, and throwing only 5 interceptions. He also showed he was quick on his feet running for 6 touchdowns. Senior running back John DeLuca had an unbelievable season running the ball last year. DeLuca ran for 1,533 yards on 329 carries and scored 17 touchdowns, 16 rushing and 1 receiving. These stats gave DeLuca 1st Team All-Centennial Conference honors.

Junior wide receiver Phil Cresta will be the main target this season after the departure of All American tight end Matt Johnson. Cresta had 43 receptions for 739 yards last season and 5 touchdowns. Not only is Cresta the main target on the football field, but he also had an incredible baseball season last year as he compiled a record of 8-3 on the hill, earning him 2nd Team All-Centennial Conference honors in the spring.

The defense was the anchor of the team last season as they held opponents to an average of 11.2 points per game, which was 4th best in the nation. Also, the Mules only allowed 211.8 yards per game, which was 3rd best in the nation. However, there will be some holes to fill as they lost 4 All-Conference players in Chris

Musselman, Dustin Good, Tom Tarsitano, and Chris Swensen. "We lost a lot of size but we have more speed now and that will allow us to use different blitzing schemes than last year," said free safety Mazzola.

Senior Brandon Doyle and junior Cameron Ahouse will make it very tough for any team to complete a pass against the Mules' secondary. Doyle was 1st Team All-Centennial Conference last year and Ahouse was Honorable Mention All-Conference. Also in the secondary is Mazzola. Mazzola had a great season last fall as he had 4 interceptions and 30 tackles, which earned him 2nd Team All-Conference.

Senior captain Matt Rathbun gave running backs nightmares last year as he led the team with 72 tackles, including 11 tackles for losses. The Mules added some speed to their linebacking core with sophomore Pat McDonough, a transfer from VMI, a Division I FCS program. Leading the Mules defensive line this season will be senior Billy Moates. Moates earned 2nd Team All-Conference last season with 34 tackles including 4 sacks.

The Mules will start the season this Sat. night at 7 p.m. at Scotty Wood Stadium against Wilkes. The Colonels started last season ranked #15 in the country and should prove to be a good test for the Mules. "You always want to play a tough out-of-Conference schedule," said senior quarterback Jim Jeffers. "To be the best, you must beat the best."



2008 Seniors who had the opportunity to hoist the Centennial Conference trophy in their final year.

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VOLUME CXXVIII ISSUE 2

Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

# New study abroad program in Bangladesh

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The study abroad program at Muhlenberg is a popular venue for students across campus. About forty percent of the student body participates, spending a semester in one of many countries with approved programs across North America, Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. Even as this percentage rises, faculty members are always looking to encourage students to take advantage of the program. A former professor once said with a smile that he advises his students to go abroad for numerous reasons, including falling in love so that they can eventually get married and receive dual citizenship in one of the amazing countries the program has to offer.

So there's the social aspect of studying abroad in addition to the rich culture, captivating courses, and the experience of a lifetime. But what if there was an experience that fell outside of this mold, a challenging and intriguing trip that would offer knowledge beyond words of a small, under-developed country that looks to us in the U.S. for inspiration? These were the thoughts of Dr. Moshin Hashim and Dr. Jack Gambino, professors in the Political Science Department whose ideas

about hosting a study abroad program in Bangladesh began merely in a joking manner, but have recently become a reality.

The new Bangladesh program, a part of Muhlenberg Integrated Learning Abroad, will consist of a two to three week trip after finals week in mid-May following a course (to be offered this upcoming spring semester) entitled *Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Bangladesh*, team-taught by Drs. Hashim and Gambino. The class will be preceded by an application process which will admit roughly fifteen students, depending how many seem 'right' for the program. While excited to see students get involved, Dr. Hashim made it clear that the program invites intellectually curious students who are looking for something way beyond "your standard Cancun, Spring Break trip." The weeks in Bangladesh will be spent everywhere from a boat in the Sunderban, the world's largest mangrove forest, to a hotel in the capital city, Dhaka. This broad view is meant to highlight the different issues faced by people in different parts of the country, because even after a semester's worth of learning about the problems, witnessing them is an entirely different experience. This course and trip abroad are meant to be eye-opening and



**"The world isn't flat and neither is Bangladesh" said Dr. Gambino of the small country of Bangladesh which is practically surrounded by India.**

PHOTO BY DR. JACK GAMBINO

intellectually stimulating, and from a mere forty five minute interview of hearing what Dr. Gambino and Dr. Hashim had to say about the program, it will definitely be worthwhile.

While there are countless things to observe and learn from in Bangladesh, the professors wish to place an emphasis on the growing problem of climate change. Although we in America acknowledge the issues of global warming, it is easy for us to fall into a state of

little concern when we don't see its effects in our country. "We wanted to show climate change through the lens of a country for whom the impact will be very great and whose livelihood would be greatly effected," said Dr. Gambino in response to my asking, "Why Bangladesh?" And with Dr. Hashim's connections in the country, since he was born there and has visited many times, Muhlenberg students who partici-

SEE BANGLADESH | PAGE 6

# Plans to expand Hillel House

By Caroline Harris  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Packs of students file into the Hillel House on Friday nights, shuffle through the exceedingly crowded rooms, and fail to find a seat at the Shabbat dinner table. President Helm and Hillel's chaplain, Patti Mittleman, plan to renovate and expand the Hillel House to accommodate Muhlenberg's growing Jewish population, as soon as they raise \$3.5 million dollars, the estimated cost of the project.

"We plan to connect the former

Mile House next door to the Hillel House. We are also hoping to enlarge the back of the house. The top of the home next door will contain a Shabbat Dinner Hall with seating for over 300 people. The bottom of the house will include classrooms and labs to be used for the Sociology and Anthropology department. There will be a dedicated sanctuary, an institutional kitchen, additional student and staff office space, and a student-designed lounge," reported Patti Mittleman.

The College's Jewish population increased by forty nine percent over

the last four years. Participation in Hillel is at an all time high, with more than two hundred students attending the weekly Shabbat Dinners.

"I'm sad about the number of people who leave on Friday nights because it's so crowded. The students who stay, but are unable to find room to eat at the tables, resort to eating dinner in other parts of the house, such as the offices and whatever other space is available," laments Patti Mittleman.

President Helm and Patti Mittleman aim to raise the money

for the renovations through the Jewish families attending the College, the Jewish Muhlenberg alumni, Jewish foundations, and the Allentown community. President Helm and Mittleman recently began to meet with some of the College's Jewish families and hope to obtain the support needed as soon as possible.

"We are very proud of the renovations that took place over this past summer," jointly commented

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

## In remembrance

It is hard to believe that today is the seventh anniversary of September 11. As each year goes by, it becomes more and more a distant memory, but it will always be our generation's "where were you when..." We were shy, nervous high school freshmen the day the twin towers were hit. Now, as seniors in college, it is remarkably easy to remember exactly how we felt that morning seven years ago. One of us was in Health, the other was in French. One of us is from New Jersey and the other Colorado, but we were affected as though we were sitting right next to each other that day.

Everyone remembers September 11 and all the patriotism that followed. American flags waved to us from cars as they passed by, and even other countries were claiming, "We are all Americans." Bono's Superbowl performance anyone? We too put on our patriotic hats and were ready to show our American pride. It consumed the country for years, and still has us tightly in its grip...but now the hold has slackened somewhat. Now, with seven years of war against Afghanistan and five and half years of war with Iraq behind us, we hear that call to banish evil quieted a bit.

Now as more troops go over and come back only to go over again, we have to wonder if we should stop and think for a second. Seven years ago we were gung ho for the fight against terrorism but now we wonder, what constitutes terrorism exactly, and why such broad categories as good and evil? Few of us asked any questions then, it was all, go America, go! We are good and we will fight evil. Patriotism is all well and good, but before we start calling ourselves the epitome of "good," maybe we need to reevaluate the impact of our past decisions and ask those questions from so many years ago.

September 11 was a wake-up call, and Americans responded. At the time it was the best response, it was what the country wanted. But now? Perhaps we should downgrade it to an option. Something had to be done after 9/11. We can't quibble about the past, and maybe today is not the time to dwell on the "what ifs." Today is a day of remembrance. It is a day to mourn, a day to feel, and a day to consider our future as Americans. Tomorrow we should ask those questions.

## The parties' views on national defense

By Stephen Holden  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

The Republican Party has long been considered the party of national security. Everyone from the most eloquent scholar to the most timid of middle school dropouts would agree that the overall perception, at least, is that this is the case. That Republicans know more about handling the military has become engrained in the American psyche to the point that the current presidential election has the blogosphere and the political pundits a-twitter about the possibility of the conflict between Russia and Georgia creating a stronger opportunity for John McCain to be elected Commander-in-Chief. Of course, this would be on the basis of a body of work spanning over a century.

When Republican Teddy Roosevelt was president in the infancy of the 20th Century he summed his leadership style as a way to "speak softly and carry a big stick," which resurfaced during the Cold War. Democratic presidents Wilson, FDR, and LBJ led the nation into the three biggest and bloodiest conflicts of the past century, which would rule out the notion that, historically, Democrats are less likely to take the country to war if need be. In fact, several Republican presidents, especially toward the beginning of the century, were isolationist.

Looking at the 2000 presidential campaign of George W. Bush it would have seemed that the Republican Party would have turned back to its isolationist origins, far from the call from Teddy to "speak softly and carry a big stick." Republican president Nixon, while aggressive in domestic politics, put forward a policy of "Vietnamization," encouraging the South Vietnamese to fight more so that Americans did not have to, a policy choice that would leave modern Republicans gasping at his encouragement of North Vietnamese to attack Americans on American soil.

When did Republican presidents decided to pick the stick back up? It began with a B-list actor named Reagan, who happened to be president in the eighties. Reagan was enrolled in the school of Realpolitik, a school of thought that places the resources and abilities of a country above all else in the name of national security and leverage. It also requires occasional showings of force, which is why the U.S. would have anything to do with a little island we invaded in the eighties called Grenada, which threatened us with its massive arsenal of margaritas.

SEE SECURITY  
PAGE 4

## The times they are a-changin'

By Kimberly O'Brien  
WEEKLY STAFF WRITER

"Come writers and critics/ Who prophesize with your pen/ And keep your eyes wide/ The chance won't come again." - Bob Dylan

I'll be the first to admit it - I hate being sentimental. But as my last year at the 'Berg has arrived, it's impossible not to be. Despite the stress of finals and pesky raises in tuition each year, this campus has treated me well.

Seniors - remember when we first visited Muhlenberg? The new science building was just another open plain of grass to play frisbee on.

Loaded with brand new swipe cards, we ate in Garden Room for every meal, craving the cafeteria's acclaimed pseudo-ice cream known as "Fro-Yo." We've put on the freshman 15, lost it, gained it back, and will now be hitting the gym to shed those pounds by senior ball.

Remember going to every free event on campus? After we made

enough Stuff-a-Plush's for the whole family, rolled our fair share of gutter balls at free bowling, and blew out our eardrums at Maingate nights (just a \$2 bus ride away!), we set our weekend sights on gaining admittance into upperclassmen parties.

Now, we are the upperclassmen, living in houses and suites that are much improved from those days spent in the freshman quad. Housing options have definitely improved since then. Two words: McGregor and Tremont.

But for all that's changed, a lot of the quintessential elements of this campus have remained constant. We still lounge under Victor's Lament (though we've given up on deciphering the symbolism behind those red steel beams). We can still grab a late-night bagel bomb at the G.Q. if we're feeling too lazy to cook.

In fact, a lot has remained the same at the 'Berg - but on a more serious note, take a look at what else was going on as we embarked on Orientation weekend.

As we settled into our dorms, many students on New Orleans campuses were busy evacuating. Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana on August 29, 2005 - and this year thousands have evacuated once again, bracing for Hurricane Gustav.

We were high school freshmen during the September 11, 2001 attacks, and arrived on campus most likely oblivious to the deep repercussions that our country is still experiencing as result of that day.

By the end of our freshman year fall break, the U.S. death toll in the Iraq war reached 2,000. As we begin our senior year, that number has exceeded 4,000.

Before we arrived on this campus,

the majority of us were just barely of voting age. Now, our generation is poised to break records for young voter turnout.

I've noticed something during this final year of pre-real world bliss. Students are thinking - or shall I say, oft conspiring - beyond campus life. Thinking about life after graduation. Thinking about war. Social Justice. Healthcare. Environment. Economy. There is no denying that upcoming changes in Washington - both for better and for worse - could have deep impact on our lives after we graduate.

We've had some great times at the 'Berg bubble - but all too soon we'll be out of Allentown. My approach to senior year? Savor the good times, but don't forget to open your eyes to the changes that have taken place far beyond the boundaries of Chew and Liberty Street. Take a glimpse at those Bob Dylan lyrics again: "The chance won't come again... For the times they are a-changin'."

*During this final year of pre-real world bliss, students are thinking-or shall I say, oft conspiring-beyond campus life.*



# Discussing the election in today's political climate



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

I find it harder and harder to discuss any type of politics these days. Especially during this election year, it is nearly impossible to have a civil discussion or debate with somebody about the candidates. Everything is so cut and dry, and it is

*It is not an easy task to avoid falling into the trap of blindly defending your opinion without listening to what somebody else has to say.*

task to avoid falling into the trap of blindly defending your opinion without listening to what somebody else has to say. All you have to do is put on the television and listen to Bill O'Reilly ranting about one point and then flip the channel and listen to Keith Olberman calling him the worst person in the world for making that point.

If you are a Republican, chances are you don't like Barack Obama as a candidate for President. Yet, completely dismissing him as liberal moron with no legitimate ideas on how to improve the country is

ridiculous. In more radical cases, calling him a Muslim, saying that he doesn't put his hand over his heart during the pledge of allegiance, and saying he has ties to terrorist organizations are simply insane. First off, there

*There is definitely a resemblance between McCain's and George W. Bush's policies but it is wrong to call them completely identical.*

shouldn't be anything wrong with being a Muslim, but we all know some people want to attach him to the negative stereotypes associated with the religion. Yet, it doesn't matter since Obama is Christian and has been his whole life.

If you are a Democrat, chances are you don't like John McCain as a candidate for President. However, that doesn't mean you can completely ignore him as a legitimate candidate with some reasonable ideas on how to help America.

There is definitely a resemblance between John McCain's and George W. Bush's policies but it is wrong to call them completely identical. I don't think anybody would be foolish enough to replicate Bush's policies in their entirety. McCain isn't the maverick that he once was, but isn't quite as far to the right as Bush.

There is a middle ground, and most of our country lies within it. It is a shame that our country is losing the practice of having a reasonable and rational debate about conflicting view points. I may support Barack Obama but that doesn't mean I think he is a flawless candidate or that I think John McCain has no positive ideas to offer. Plenty of Republicans out there support McCain but admire aspects of Obama's campaign. The next time you are ready to scream down at somebody with a different political viewpoint, try to listen to what they have to say. No party in America is strong enough to have all the answers to all the issues our country faces.

*There is a middle ground, and most of our country lies within it. It is a shame that our country is losing the practice of having a reasonable and rational debate about conflicting view points.*

## Promote conservative values on campus

By Lauren Spirko  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

The Muhlenberg College Republicans would like to invite you, as a member of the campus community, to rediscover the College

Republicans and promote conservative values on campus.

Muhlenberg College is supposed to be a politically unbiased institution, where every person has an equal opportunity to form and talk about his or her own ideas. However, over the past few years, overwhelming liberal ideas have been silencing conservative ideas on campus. Last year, most of the speakers on campus, even those not sponsored by the College Democrats, held liberal views. This is not fair to the Muhlenberg community. Students should have the opportunity to hear from all sides of the political spectrum.

Inside the classroom, unfortunately, conservative silence has become even worse. We heard from many students last year who, having not conformed to the liberal way of thinking, were afraid to speak out. They feared that announcing their conservative views would associate them with the false, negative stereotypes that liberals on our campus, and across the nation, have created and attached to conservatism. This fear of announcing one's political views is not right, but the truth is, we, as conservatives, are not fixing the problem by remaining quiet. We have allowed the people who create these stereotypes to continue misrepresenting conservatism. An excellent example of this is a statement made by Barack Obama. He said, when talking about small town people in Pennsylvania, that "it's not surprising, then, they get bitter, they cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them or anti-immigrant sentiment or anti-trade sentiment as a way to explain their frustrations." Obama's conception of the people here in Pennsylvania is entirely wrong, and extremely offensive. Are we, as conservatives, simply going to sit back and allow people like him to make these remarks? It is our duty to stop these inaccurate assertions.

*Over the past few years, overwhelming liberal ideas have been silencing conservative ideas on campus.*

SEE REPUBLICAN  
PAGE 4

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY Serving The Muhlenberg Community Since 1883

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# Write for OP/ED!

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### SECURITY

FROM PAGE 2

Thanks to the reemergence of realpolitik, now known as "cowboy diplomacy," the fantastic oration of actor/President Reagan, and the support of the massively expensive non-starter Star Wars (Strategic Defense Initiative) program, the American people began to see the Republican contingency as the sole defender of national safety while the Democrats looked silly riding in tanks (see: Michael Dukakis). Push the whole "winning the Cold War" thing to the side, because we know that Russia would never attack one of its old satellites (see: Georgia) or go back to its old ways (see: oligarchy).

When President Bush took office in 2000 he did not disappoint those who think Republicans were tougher on foreign politics by becoming a cowboy diplomat, invading a country based on "bad intelligence," and sending an ambassador to the UN that hates the UN. His latest move involved sending missiles to Poland when Russia invaded Georgia, which is the international equivalent of poking a hibernating bear with a stick. Indeed, the Republican Party appears to be stronger, but only when they speak; nothing ever goes the way they plan on the international scale.

*The American people began to see the Republican contingency as the sole defender of national safety.*

### REPUBLICAN

FROM PAGE 3

How do we do this? We must unite together in promoting conservatism on Muhlenberg's campus. This upcoming year, we, the Muhlenberg College Republicans, will work towards revealing fundamental and TRUE conservative values. We will hold debates, sponsor events, and work towards educating our college campus on the truth about conservatism. We are traditionalists who believe in small government, lower taxes, individual responsibility, free market and the basic conservative principles that have propelled our country to become the free and equal nation it is today.

*Unlike other groups, we will not spend this year attempting to brainwash students into accepting one set of political ideas.*

These are the ideals for which we stand.

Unlike other political groups on campus, we will not spend this year attempting to brainwash students into accepting one set of political ideas. Instead, we only wish to educate students on true conservatism, while simultaneously combating the liberal ideals with historically based facts and time-tested values—thus, riding the campus of false stereotypes.

If you are a fellow conservative, moderate, or questioning the liberal establishment, please join us this year in our plans to resurface the conservative underground here on campus. It is time to unite and combat the liberal agenda that has overwhelmed Muhlenberg.

If you would like to get involved with our organization, please email Lauren Spirko at [Lauren.Spirko@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:Lauren.Spirko@muhlenberg.edu)

## JDate.com: not your Bubbie's dating world anymore

By Rebecca Sachs  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

As my ex-boyfriend was doing his own thing and I was doing mine this past summer, I had the time to sit with my thoughts and emotions. After what felt like five minutes, feelings of loneliness and self-loathing set up camp and began to make s'mores of self-doubt and pity.

When the ex had another girl sleep over at his house, I was struck with inspiration. I'll ask you one question: what is a heartbroken Jewish girl of twenty to do when frat parties aren't readily available (or, as available as they are going to be—I am talking about Muhlenberg here?) One word: JDate.com (A Jewish dating site). The kosher marshmallows and chocolate were looking more ooey-goey and delicious already.

I—or, let's be honest, my mom—paid the forty dollar monthly subscription, I created my username, embellished my qualities a bit (just a teeny

bit—I mean, I am selling myself), and had my friend snap an innocent-looking picture of me. All I had to do was wait.

Eight hours later, I rose from bed and signed on. I already had messages! Eat it up, self-doubt. You're peacin' outta here!

With the exception of a couple of—for lack of a better word—creepy e-mails from men much older than myself (it would be another article in itself), I found some boys my Bubbie (Grandma in Yiddish) would be proud to call one of her kindah (children).

After speaking with one person in particular every day for about a week, I met up with him at Barnes and Noble, for nothing is more telling about a person than books. After a gander through the Bargain Books and Judaica sections, I realized the spark wasn't there. We said our goodbyes, and two weeks later I unsubscribed. I had lost faith in this shallow game of dating.

About a week ago, however, the campers were back, s'more ingredients in hand...and so was JDate. When down, it's the perfect distraction.

*All I want to say to you skeptics out there is the following: my chances of meeting somebody have doubled—I get to look at more boys! And my age? It's like my Bubbie says: I'm young. I should have fun.*

So I got rid of it a month ago, but I'm trying to think about it in a new light. Yes, I'm in college. Yes, I'm only twenty-years-old. All I want to say to you skeptics out there is the following: my chances of meeting somebody have doubled—I get to look at more boys! And my age? It's like my Bubbie says: I'm young. I should have fun. It's not Bubbie's dating world anymore.

This is my way of having fun! And who knows? You never know when self-doubt and self-pity are going to pack up their graham crackers, marshmallows, and Hershey's for good, for the big bad bear I call my future husband may be on this website, and will scare the crap out of them forever. They will never again set up camp on my grounds, and I will have JDate to thank.



New student workroom in the Hillel House.

PHOTO BY PATTI MITTLEMAN

HILLEL | FROM PAGE 1

Jon Falk '10 and Nicole Bernard '09, Hillel's co-student presidents. "The unfinished basement was finally completed. The new basement has not only helped us attract people to our Wednesday night movies, but it has also given us space for our Friday night dinners and bagel brunches. The students even like to use it for purposes outside of our Hillel events."

The Hillel House used to contain tiled floors with sinkholes, an unfinished ceiling, cracked walls, bare light bulbs, old furniture and spiders. The basement now includes completed walls and a ceiling, carpeting, furniture the students purchased with Patti, a big-screen TV, and a futon. Other summer additions include central air-conditioning for the entire Hillel House.

"Students were involved in many of the renovation decisions, such as what colors to paint the walls. I want students to feel like this is their home," stated Patti Mittleman. "I am also confident that others will understand how vital our upcoming renovations are to sustaining Jewish life at the college. I think we can get the project done in less than eight months if we get the money. I am very hopeful."

# Sex store a success

By Jana Elfenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

The Gay Straight Alliance, GSA, held a somewhat controversial fundraiser on September 1 to not only make money for their upcoming events, but also to get attract new students to be part of GSA. Usually, GSA has an open house in the beginning of the new school year to welcome any freshman or upperclassman to join their group, but this year GSA decided to hold a fundraiser as a different approach.

Members of GSA put up many flyers and "dorm-stormed" to spread the word about the event. Adrian Shanker '09 enthusiastically reports, "We made a good amount of money on that one event. We made one hundred dollars on twenty percent commissions from the sex toy vender, body painter, and erotic artist.

I would consider this a very successful event because there was more than one hundred and fifty people who attended and we now have fifty seven new e-mail sign-ups just from that one event."

There were some complaints from people on the campus because they were offended by the idea.

Shanker responds, "It was an event that was intended to promote a sex positive ideal for the campus in which students can feel comfortable about sex. Our goal had nothing to do with promoting sex to those who were not interested in it. There was no one at the event who complained about the content."

GSA is proud to be one of the most active student organizations on campus."

GSA is an advocacy organization that strives to reach out to the

Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transvestite, LGBT, students to let them know that there is an organization on campus that is there for them.

GSA currently has three hundred and eighty six members and is always welcoming new students to join. Shanker emphasizes, "We are not a support group, we are here to educate the community on campus and in the area about the issues that are important to us."

GSA's goal is to create events open to the public, combat LGBT issues, and raise public awareness. Shanker proudly states, "We have a good relationship with the administration and with that are happy to receive our LGBT coordinator, Anita Kelli. Also, we have a new rainbow space and even though our fight for gender-neutral housing is still going on, we have made a lot of progress so far."

GSA is proud to be one of the most active student organizations on campus. It held over twenty events last year, including hosting a presidential candidate last spring semester.

This semester they are looking forward to guest speaker Melanie Kaye-Kantrowitz, a queer theorist and Jewish Studies Scholar, on September 23 at 7 pm in Miller Forum and the Memorial Service in honor of the tenth year anniversary of Matthew Shepard's murder on October 12 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.

Also, GSA invited Liz Bradbury to hold a book reading on her book *Angel Food and Devil Dogs* on October 23 at 7 pm in Trexler Library Level A. This is another great fundraiser for the group because they will be receiving ten percent of the book sales.

The Pride house is located on 2214 Chew Street and welcome anyone who is interested in joining GSA.

Overall, GSA is very pleased with their results from the sex store fundraiser and hope their future events and fundraisers are equally as successful.



# Kick off with Capitol Steps

By Kati Neubauer  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Several months after Barack Obama held a speech in the College's Memorial Hall, The Capitol Steps brought his image back on Wed. September 3. Not only Obamania returned, but also important figures such as John McCain and others stepped into the spotlight.

With a twinkle in the eye the show was presented by the Center for Ethics and the Muhlenberg Activities Council. Seven hundred free tickets were given away, while this exclusive event was open to more than 1200 students, faculty and staff members on campus.

Judith A. Ridner, Director of the Center for Ethics, explained to the Muhlenberg Weekly that The Capitol Steps was invited as the kick-off event for the season, accessible to everybody on campus. It was important for her to choose a performance that had not only had an educational value, but was also fun and entertaining.

Since both parties were criticized, the performance could lead to campus-wide debates of ethical issues. The show was actually discussed in up to ten classes related to the Center of Ethics to ensure reflective and critical thinking with a step back and a look behind the political scenes.

Moreover, for Judith A Ridner the purpose was to set themes for the semester that will be topics for several events. The themes the College can look forward to are domestic political issues, economy, foreign affairs and war.

The show contained numerous sketches about the country's current political climate set to popular

showtunes and other well-known music. For instance, the show began with a parody of Mama Mia entitled Obama Mia. There were also numerous acts featuring the Clinton's, including a mix of Shakespearean parodies by Hilary discussing her views on the outcome of the primary election. Moreover, there was a parody of Gore's An Inconvenient Truth in which he was promoting a book entitled "Global Warming for Dummies" by singing a song with lyrics, "There's a hole in the center of the ozone."

Several students that attended the show were asked about their impressions and feelings:

One student said, "I think the Capitol Steps didn't bring any innovative material. Instead they kept repeating old political jokes. The songs were creative. But two hours of that was too much to bear."

Said another student, "It was a fun show! The Capitol Steps came up with all the jokes Europeans have in mind when they think about the coming election in the USA. However, some jokes were a bit cheesy and overdone. Overall I thought they did a good job and it was worthwhile to go to."

A third student remarked, "The performance was like a vacation. Today's politics are intense due to the war and Bush's leading style, as well as the big question: Who will win the election? But by making fun of the serious issues Capital Steps was able to free the audience of the worries about the future for an evening. Even though the performance didn't change my mind about politics, I felt relaxed after the show."

In reflection it seems the purpose of the show was fulfilled: the College experienced a fun night which provoked critical discussion and made students ask for more.

## Join The Muhlenberg Weekly!

Stop by the Red  
Door Cafe today,  
Thurs. Sept. 11 at  
3:30 for an infor-  
mational meeting.

We need writers,  
editors, and pho-  
tographers. Hope  
to see you there!

## BANGLADESH | FROM PAGE 1

participate in this program will have the opportunity to speak to some of the country's greatest minds and see every aspect of life in Bangladesh.

With a nod to the "Muhlen-bubble" aspect of the college community, Dr. Hashim further explained his motivation in this program. "We have no excuse," he stated regarding our often limited worldview, "we live in a very interdependent world and the College is making a very conscious effort to get students into the real world." And Bangladesh is certainly to be an eye-opener in this world, as the professors intend to show their students the ways in which Bangladeshis have adapted their lives around the changing climate and economy.

One of the most densely populated countries in the world, Bangladesh is filled with people in countless places on the financial spectrum; from its streets filled with beggars to its institutions filled with highly educated professors, such as the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, with which the Muhlenberg program will be closely affiliated. What Dr. Gambino and Dr. Hashim want students to take away from the trip, however, is not a pity for the under privileged.

"We're not going to say 'oh these poor people, how can I help?' but rather to see how they help themselves; how ordinary Bangladesh people respond to their situations," Dr. Gambino said, with hopes that students would learn from the incredible innovation of the Bangladeshi people.

So the Bangladesh study abroad program is meant to be a different kind of experience, and a different kind of fun, especially in terms of interacting with the people. English is widely known; many people not only can carry on a conversation, but have a strong desire to do so.

Dr. Hashim said that the people he encountered on his most recent trip to Bangladesh with Dr. Gambino would frequently ask about the election here in the States, were persistently curious and loved having their picture taken!

Overall, the new perspectives offered in Bangladesh promise an appreciation for the differences in our development and an extensive, appreciative worldview.

Interested? Intrigued? Go to the Study Abroad Poster Fair in Seegers 108, 109 & 110 on September 23 to find out more.



The children of Bangladesh genuinely enjoyed posing for the camera.

PHOTO BY DR. JACK GAMBINO



Bangladesh's Buriganga is a source of transportation for the inhabitants of Bangladesh's cities.

PHOTO BY DR. JACK GAMBINO

# Multicultural Center

## The search for a new director

By Brittany Rodriguez  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

The Multicultural Center at the College, which is a facility that offers a supportive environment, provocative programming, and leadership development to its multicultural students, faculty, and staff, is currently conducting a search for a new director. Since August 1, Cynthia Amaya has been acting as interim director and will remain in this position until a new director has been named.

The Multicultural Center has been a part of the College's campus for the Alliance (GSA). On any given day, the GSA and other groups hold meetings and events at the Center.

Because the Center is relatively new, one

of the goals is to reach out to the entire student body and "invite anyone to come in and be a part of the Center," explained Amaya. "Another goal is to serve as a campus-wide resource that facilitates and promotes a learning community of multicultural understanding and exchange through collaboration, dialogue, and action."

*"One of the goals is to reach out to the entire student body and 'invite anyone to come in and be a part of the Center.'"*

Candidates for the position of director should have a bachelor's degree and preferably a master's degree, be "student friendly," willing to be an infiltrator in terms of multicultural programming, and be able to branch out to all areas of the campus. They are looking forward to meeting all of the candidates and they expect to fill the position by the spring semester.

### Meet the Managers

4-6 PM

Seegers 113



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## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!  
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# More Hillel Renovations



There's air conditioning (left) in the Hillel House! So now when students file in every Friday night for Shabbat dinner and every other Sunday morning for Bagel brunch, they can beat the heat in the nice cool air of the Hillel House!

PHOTO BY PATTI MITTLEMAN

The basement (right) of the Hillel House before it was renovated. Now it is fully finished and ready for students to utilize it as a study space or to just simply hang out.

PHOTO BY PATTI MITTLEMAN



## Campus Safety Notes

Sep 2 - Medical - Employee fell up steps and hurt her leg.

Sep 2 - Plant Operations - Holes were found in wall caused by a student "climbing" the wall.

Sep 2 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off on Twenty Second Street due to food burning on stove.

Sep 3 - Plant Operations - Two people stuck in Life Sports Center elevators.

Sep 3 - Investigative - Female student reported 3 suspicious guys in their late teens near the chapel followed her back to residency. There are no suspects at this time.

Sep 3 - Medical - Sick student in East transported to hospital.

Sep 3 - Theft - 3 rolls of 75 feet of hose costing \$36.50 each were stolen.

Sep 3 - Plant Operations - Hole in wall on first floor Walz due to student climbing the wall.

Sep 3 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off in Walson by clean-

ing in housekeeping break room.

Sep 3 - Investigative - Inappropriate use of computer by non-student.

Sep 3 - Plant Operations - Walnut fell from tree and broke student's car window.

Sep 3 - Vandalism - Vulgarities and racial slur written on dirty car window.

Sep 3 - Dispatch Code - Non-criminal employee situation within Sodexo.

Sep 3 - Medical - Student in Prosser had extreme back pains and was transported to hospital.

Sep 4 - Medical - Sick student in Prosser transported to hospital.

Sep 4 - Dispatch Code - Student had issue with library employee. Situation was resolved.

Sep 4 - Liquor Law - Student was arrested for trying to use a fake ID and for misrepresentation of age to secure liquor.

Sep 5 - Medical - Student

in Walz vomiting in bathroom and was transported to hospital by Allentown EMS.

Sep 5 - Alcohol Violation - Student was arrested by Allentown Police for underage consumption of alcohol.

Sep 5 - Liquor Law - Student was arrested off campus for public drunkenness, underage drinking, and disorderly conduct after making comments to an officer.

Sep 5 - Medical - Student injured ankle in dance studio and was transported to Health Center.

Sep 5 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off on Gordon Street due to steam from shower.

Sep 6 - Liquor Law - Unresponsive student vomiting in Walz bathroom was transported to hospital. Student arrested for underage consumption and public drunkenness.

Sep 6 - Vandalism - Students attempted to go up roof access in new Science Building, but were caught by housekeeper.

Sep 6 - Alarm - Firm alarm

went off in Robertson Hall due to steam from shower.

Sep 6 - Medical - Sick student in Prosser was transported to hospital for consuming too much liquor the night before.

Sep 6 - Medical - Injured student on Tilghman Street was transported to hospital.

Sep 6 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off on Gordon Street due to steam from shower.

Sep 6 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off on Leh Street due to heat from stove.

Sep 6 - Alarm - Alarms activated in Haas due to power outage.

Sep 6 - Plant Operations - Plumbing issues on various parts of campus due to heavy rain.

Sep 6 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off in South due to burnt popcorn.

Sep 7 - Noise Complaint - Noise complaint on Leh Street, but no one was there.

Sep 7 - Liquor Law - Student arrested for Underage

consumption of alcohol.

Sep 7 - Liquor Law - Student arrested by APD for underage consumption.

Sep 7 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation on first floor of Benfer. Students referred to Judicial Process.

Sep 7 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation on second floor of Benfer.

Sep 7 - Vandalism - Graffiti on second floor of ML. No suspects at this time.

Sep 7 - Vandalism - Door on the quad side of ML is shattered. No suspects at this time.

Sep 7 - Liquor Law - Student arrested for possession of false ID and for attempting to obtain alcohol.

Sep 7 - Medical - Injured Student in Life Sports Center transported to hospital.

Sep 7 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off on Chew Street due to cooking.

Sep 7 - Disorderly Conduct - Student reported harassment off campus by other student.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"What everyone wants from life is continuous and genuine happiness."

- Baruch Spinoza

## Miley Cyrus's attempt to "breakout" from Hannah Montana

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Millions of die-hard fans, millions of various mass-produced memorabilia being sold, and millions of dollars: this is the empire that is Miley Cyrus. At only age fifteen, Cyrus has become more than a household name, but an international superstar, as well known as Madonna or The Beatles.

As the most profitable cog in the Disney machine, Cyrus' past year shot her from sitcom star to A-list. Side effects included being caught up in an infamous Annie Liebowitz shot photo-shoot for *Vanity Fair* (which was the magazine's highest selling issue of the year) that parents worldwide boycotted and still complain about.

She's also been a tabloid favorite, with pictures leaking online every few weeks of what seem to be Cyrus in scantily clad or sometimes see-through and wet attire. She's even been criticized as a horrible role model for the simple fact that she said *Sex And The City* was her favorite television show. And then people wonder why child stars are so messed up.

July 22 saw the release of Cyrus' new album "Breakout," a title very fitting as it is her first full-length solo release not attached to her Disney character persona, Hannah Montana (the previous "Meet Miley Cyrus" album came as part of a double CD on the second "Hannah Montana" soundtrack).

At first listen, you acknowledge the cheesy, fun pop that the record is, but it doesn't immediately click why parents are paying thousands of dollars for tickets on eBay so their kids can see her live. And then it hits you: despite everything she's been through, Cyrus is still trying to prove she is just an average fifteen-year-old girl.

With everything that's happened, she could easily pull a Britney Spears and sing songs complaining about the paparazzi and her unfair

representation in the media. Instead, she opts to sing about teenage relationships and simply growing up, becoming a much more relatable and personable image in the eyes of her core tween audience. When talking to MTV News, she said the album was "for every teenager, or any woman in general. Most of the songs are for girls who hate their current or ex-boyfriends."

Taking a page from Hilary Duff's self-titled album, Cyrus' record creates an edgier, rockier, and rawer sound for the pop star. In place of dance beats, there are now electric guitars, and rather than synthesizers, drums overpower the production of most of the songs (even the final track on the album, the "Rock Mafia" remix of her previous album's break out single "See You Again," transforms the song from a club inspired dance floor hit to an infectious pop/rock anthem).

Her lyrics, although very cliché and non-complex, show a much broader range of emotions, dealing with heartbreak, anger, excitement, fear, and sorrow.

The album opens with the Katy Perry penned title track "Breakout," a song about being young, rebellious, and a heartbreaker who likes to have fun. It's a curfew defying track that basically defines what it means to be a teenager with a thirst for independence, a.k.a. every parent's nightmare.

The track is followed by the album's kickoff single, "7 Things," an early Ashlee Simpson inspired song that practically sums up the entire teen flick *10 Things I Hate About You* in under four minutes. In it, Cyrus rocks out about all the things about her former flame (Joe Jonas perhaps?) that bother her, with the last thing being that she "loves" him. Although it comes off as a bitter breakup song, it's actually rather sweet as the song concludes with her listing all the reasons why she does love him.

Following soon after is her cover of Cyndi Lauper's 80's classic

"Girls Just Wanna Have Fun." The song blends in nicely with the themes of liberation that Cyrus' record is trying to convey, but the song itself is hardly mediocre. In her defense, it is extremely risky to cover such a beloved and culturally renowned song, so she deserves credit for trying.

That being said, however, there is no fathomable way that the song will do for Cyrus what it did for Lauper. Her way of contemporizing the track is by (surprise!) having it arranged to be a pop/rock number, which almost seems like it's trying to negate the pure pop perfection of the original. Note to Cyrus: the candy-coated bubblegum aspect of Lauper's version is what made the song so huge in the first place. There's a reason it was a Cyndi Lauper and not a Blondie song.

Although Cyrus' version isn't terrible, it's not a cover that will by any means outweigh the original. Instead, it will just be grouped with Lindsay Lohan's version of Stevie Nicks' "Edge Of Seventeen" as another half-decent attempt to take a classic song and unsuccessfully rework it for a new generation. Cyrus gets an A for effort, but not for quality.

The standout track on the record is "Wake Up America." The song doesn't pop out because it's got the catchiest tune, but because of its lyrical content. Rather than complying with the broken-hearted and teen angst-filled themes of the rest of the album, the song steers directions to talk about the environmental state of the nation. What? Miley Cyrus the environmentalist? I was shocked too.

In it, she sings, "everything I read global warming going green, I don't know what this means but it seems to be saying wake up America, we're all in this together, it's our home so let's take care of it." Now, I'm not entirely sure what she means by "global warming going green" and admittedly so neither does Cyrus.

However, she sounds convincing

enough, especially as she continues to sing, "everything you do matters in some way. I know that you don't want to hear it, especially coming from someone so young, but in the back seat they want to hear it!"

It's a valiant effort, but the song has a lot more potential than it actually delivers. Although Cyrus should be applauded for using her celebrity status to try and make a difference, even if she doesn't really understand exactly what it is that she's singing about.

Like many starlets before her, Miley Cyrus is a Disney star with a mission to transcend boundaries to become a pop icon. Though she is not one of the most talented singers vocally, there is no question that she knows how to market herself and release an album that compliments her voice.

Songs such as "Full Circle" and "Goodbye" for instance, are guaranteed to break the Top 20. There's no way that she could ever release anything similar to an Aguilera record, but by intelligently redirecting herself down the pop/rock route, Cyrus is a shoe-in to at least be the next Avril Lavigne, if not even bigger than that.

The album overall is nothing mind-blowing or original, but it is a fun pop record that will surely have thirteen-year-olds all over the world singing into their hairbrushes and begging for more. I'm not going to lie, this CD definitely qualifies as a guilty pleasure that I won't skip over when my iPod plays one of its tracks on shuffle.

Though not even sixteen-years-old yet, Miley Cyrus is already performing at stadiums and venues that artists who have been around for decades could never dream of playing at, let alone selling out in a matter of minutes after tickets go on sale.

With this new record, Cyrus has solidified herself as a name that will not be off the top of the charts (or the gossip blogs for that manner) for many, many years to come.



# How to get the guy...

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

According to collegeboard.com, the College currently caters to 2,457 undergrads, fifty-five percent of which are women. So with more women competing for a smaller pool of men, what does it take to get the guy you want?

Before we get started on this let's set up some parameters. This entire article is written under the premise that a girl wants more than just a one-night stand; she wants a little romance but not necessarily commitment. And for this article's purposes, the guy that she is trying to snag has the same intentions.

So, what's this guy like? After talking to some friends we came to the conclusion that girls want a guy who is funny, nice and, of course, attractive.

He's got to make us laugh, he needs to care about himself, and most importantly he has to be able to have a good conversation.

There is one guy who fits this description and he has a girlfriend, but that's

a whole other article, so let's just pretend he doesn't and there are duplicates of him. Alright, so what's it take to get the guy?

One friend of mine answered, "I push my boobs up." My other friend and I laughed, but we knew she was only half kidding. So, I asked my girl friends what they thought and they said someone "pretty or hot" is going to get the guy.

Surprisingly, though, my guy friend never mentioned the words "cute," "hot," or "attractive" when he described what he was looking for.

We may need to give guys more credit, because according to my friend, "Guys aren't one-track minded like people say, it's not true." So, if it's not all about how we look, there must be other things we should do to get the guy.

My friends think "having a good sense of humor" is important. Bringing the jokes seems to be the best way to capture someone's attention. Not to mention that a girl should try to be nice, cute,

and a good conversationalist.

According to my guy friend, though, a girl should be able to kick back and enjoy life. And equally as important, she needs to have a "good smile."

Being relaxed and comfortable with yourself holds some weight too. But with so many qualities we have to be, how are we ever supposed to win the guy over?

One place to start is avoiding any of these turn-offs. A girl should try not to be "obnoxious, sloppy, or annoying" say my girl friends. But my guy friend says "the whole drama, cliquy thing" is one of the most unattractive traits a girl can have.

One subject they agreed on, though, is that trying too hard is just not going to work. What's trying "too hard," anyway?

My guy friend describes it as "concentrating too hard on looking good and forgetting to be yourself." Avoid all of this, and you're one step closer to

getting the guy.

This whole list of things to be and not to be can be pretty intimidating, but don't get scared off! Every girl wants different things in a guy, just like every guy wants different things in a girl.

Just because you don't have every single one of these qualities doesn't mean you can't get that guy you want, because he may not care when, for example, your joke totally bombs.

My guy friend said that he really just wants to meet "someone who can have fun and enjoy life." Now that doesn't sound so hard, does it?

In a world swarming with competition for a smaller amount of good guys, you've got to make yourself stand out. It's by no means impossible, but there are a few things that couldn't hurt when you've finally spotted him.

In the end, we can all agree, if you're torn between getting implants or veneers, just relax and enjoy being yourself, and who knows, maybe you'll be the lucky lady who gets the guy.



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING TO GET IN YOUR MAILBOX?



"A lollipop."  
- Ira Blum, '10



"A card from my mom."  
- Andrea Rosenfield, '12



"A package slip."  
- Emily Davis and Lauren McManus, '10



"Grandma's homemade cookies with sprinkles."  
- Matt Dunne, '12



"Flyers."  
- Dan Echevarria, '12

## Carmike Weekend Listings



### Bangkok Dangerous

Fri. 4:30, 7:50, 10:10  
Sat. 4:30, 7:50, 10:10  
Sun. 4:30, 7:50, 10:10

### Tyler Perry's The Family the Preys

Fri. 4:10, 7:00, 9:15  
Sat. 4:10, 7:00, 9:15  
Sun. 4:10, 7:00, 9:15

### Tropic Thunder

Fri. 4:20, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:20, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:20, 7:20, 10:00

### Righteous Kill

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30

### The Women

Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:20  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:20  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

### Diaster Movie

Fri. 4:50, 7:10, 9:30  
Sat. 4:50, 7:10, 9:30  
Sun. 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

### Burn After Reading

Fri. 4:40, 7:30, 9:50  
Sat. 4:40, 7:30, 9:50  
Sun. 4:40, 7:30, 9:50

### The Dark Knight

Fri. 5:10, 8:30  
Sat. 5:10, 8:30  
Sun. 5:10, 8:30

# The Muhlenberg Weekly

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Please indicate the positions you are applying for (you can apply for as many as you feel qualified):

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- ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
- ASSISTANT FOCUS EDITOR
  
- PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
- ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
- DESIGN CONSULTANT
  
- NEWS EDITOR
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Please answer the following questions for each position on a separate sheet of paper:

1. What qualifications do you have for the position to which you are applying? (Include both personal and professional qualities.)
2. Please describe in detail previous experience with The Weekly or other newspapers/publications, etc. Include computer experience and knowledge here:
3. What campus activities are you involved in?
4. What kind of time commitment do you think the position entails? To what extent are you willing to commit yourself to The Weekly? BE SPECIFIC.
5. What are the greatest strengths and weaknesses you see in The Weekly currently?
6. What are some new ideas you would like to institute through the position?
7. What is an interesting fact about you that most people don't know?

Please return your completed application to Luanne Linares, Editor-in-Chief, Campus Box 0106. You will be contacted to confirm an interview time when your application is received.

For job descriptions or any other questions, please contact  
Luanne at LL233789@muhlenberg.edu or weeklyeditor@gmail.com



## Gossip Guru: VMA Edition

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

There were stars aplenty at the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday, September 7. The awards ceremony brought out countless celebrities, not limited to those in the music industry.

Presenting awards were the likes of Lindsay Lohan, Paris Hilton, the Hills' Lauren Conrad, and even Olympic gold-medalist Michael Phelps.

Performing at the awards ceremony was a variety of popular artists. Rihanna opened the show with her hit song "Disturbia," then later performed again with rapper T.I.

The latest tween sensations known as the Jonas Brothers performed their new single "Lovebug," and Katy Perry sang her summer hit "I Kissed A Girl."

Christina Aguilera also had her first live performance after giving birth to son Max in January. Closing the show was the pompous but talented Kanye West, who helped the ceremony go out with a bang by performing "Love Lockdown."

Notably present at the VMA's was Britney Spears, who won her first ever VMA (plus two more) after being a household name in pop music for over ten years. Spears also kicked off the ceremony by appearing in a skit with *Superbad*'s Jonah Hill. The amusing sketch was a refreshing change from Spears' mess of a performance at the 2007 VMA's.

The night's other winners included Best Male Video winner Chris Brown, Best Hip Hop Video winner Lil' Wayne, and Best Rock Video winner Linkin Park. One of the show's biggest surprises was German band Tokio Hotel's win for Best New Artist. Tokio Hotel took home the award despite being up against singer of the moment Katy Perry and the hugely popular Miley Cyrus.

### VMA Gossip

A celebrity-packed event like the VMA's never fails to provide the inevitable gossip and scandal that is a staple in Hollywood. This year's event was no exception.

VMA host Russell Brand's edgy humor brought a fair amount of

shock value to the evening.

Brand's most notorious crack was no doubt his jab at the Jonas Brothers and their purity rings, stating "it is a little bit ungrateful, because they can literally have sex with any woman that they want, and they're just not gonna do it..." This comment prompted presenter Jordin Sparks, who has also publically admitted to wearing a purity ring, to fire back at the host's dig.

She said "I just wanna say, it's not bad to wear a promise ring because not every guy and a girl wants to be a slut, OK?"

Other stars also criticized Brand for his comments, including blogger Perez Hilton. Hilton mentioned that Brand, who is a former sex addict, should not have made such inappropriate remarks. Even Paris Hilton, who is not exactly known for her moral values, defended the Jonas Brothers' abstinence pledge, saying "that's something cool for a kid to keep, so don't pick on them for that."

On a positive note, rumors of any bad blood between singers Miley Cyrus and Katy Perry were squashed before the awards show began. The two arrived and walked the red carpet together, stating in interviews that they are in fact friends. The supposed feud between Cyrus and the "I Kissed A Girl" singer was ignited by Perry's response in an interview that she would pick Cyrus if she could choose any girl to kiss.

Cyrus' comeback added more fuel to the fire, as she stated that Perry's comment was merely out of jealousy. "[Katy] sang on my record," says Cyrus, "so I think she's kind of getting back at me, because she was doing harmonies and backgrounds." Despite the speculation brought on by these remarks, Cyrus and Perry (or at least their PR people) decided that making amends on the red carpet was the way to go.

All in all, the 2008 VMA's proved once again to be the pop-culture spectacle that MTV viewers have come to expect. Filled with knock-out performances, celebrity presenters, a really psychadelically tricked out host and the frequent raunchy joke, it was a night that Hollywood will surely remember.

At least until next year's show.

By Jackson Bull  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Paul W.S. Anderson's thrilling new movie *Death Race* offers a frightening yet somewhat entertaining glance at what life is like after the year 2012, when the Aztecs predicted the end of the world. Fortunately for us, it consists of an awesome, new form of entertainment: a TV show that has death row prisoners teaming up with hot babes, while riding in fast cars that are equipped with two anti-aircraft machine guns and six bazookas, ready to blow the other contestants straight to hell to try to earn their freedom. No one said freedom is free.

*Death Race* makes the chariot racing in ancient Rome look like a turtle race, for the race track is filled with swords, shields, and death stoppers, which can pop up randomly on the track causing an awesome collision into two-meter long steel spikes that penetrate anything that runs into it.

And once the spikes go straight through the poor vehicle and into the driver's skull, the spikes start to go back into the ground with a lot of pressure behind its power, bring-

## Death Race: seriously speedy

ing the scrap of metal with it.

This no-bull action flick stars actress Joan Allen, whose face looks like it has been injected with way too much botox. Normally, her emotionless and effortless acting would attract some kind of criticism, but in this movie it just adds to the badassness and deserves nothing but respect. Her cold personality would even have Steve 'Stone Cold' Austin running for his mommy in *The Condemned*.

If it wasn't for the exceedingly serious dialogue, the movie would not have been as entertaining. At one point in the film when Jason Statham's character pisses off Hennessey (Joan Allen), she just surprises the audience with a very vulgar but hilarious line, "Alright c\*\*\*\*\*r, no one s\*\*\* on my sidewalk." This multi-dimensional insult just leaves the viewer laughing out loud and then asking himself, "what the hell does that mean?"

Much like the new *Rambo*, *Death Race* is a no-bull action movie with 'awesome' written all over it. So if you're looking for an Oscar-nominated movie with Woody Allen-based-dialogue, this film is certainly not for you.

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# Muhlenberg Women's Soccer off to their best start in school history

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

the start of this women's soccer game between Muhlenberg and Elmira. The first home game of the season is always an exciting one, because it lets the fans, team, and school know where we stand as far as our athletics, and it gives us a hint as to what we are in store for the duration of the season.

Well, if this game was any indication of things to come, then Muhlenberg should not be the slightest bit worried.

In this regular season matchup, the Lady Mules came out on top while dominating this game, shutting out Elmira 4-0. The Mules controlled the game from the opening kick until the final horn an hour and a half later, only giving up one shot on goal for the entire game.

Junior Kate Morrissey started in goal for the Mules, yet was taken out at halftime in favor of freshman Michele Toher. Morrissey did not face a single shot. Toher saved the only shot that came at her.

First year player Nicolette Miller opened the scoring in the eleventh minute, shooting from the left side of the box to beat Elmira goalkeeper Stacy Krom for what ended up being the game winning goal.

"It felt really great," Miller said after being asked how it felt to score the first two goals of her Muhlenberg career. "It's really exciting playing with such great girls...to make an impact on the game to help us win is a really great feeling. I'm just glad we all play so well together in order to have a shut out like that."

Miller also added an insurance goal in the 81st minute on a breakaway.

Junior Christina O'Grady scored the second goal for 'Berg in the 44th minute, banking a shot off the crossbar from the right side of the field to double the Mules' lead. Freshman Renee Dessimone also scored in the 59th minute on a breakaway.

Also seeing a significant amount of playing time in this was freshman Jamie Weiss. Weiss was put into the game after the first goal was scored, and stayed in until after the fourth goal.

"The team worked really well together and that's why we were successful," said Weiss.

Although she did not score a goal, she was always in the play, and seemed to be every-

where on the field at once.

Everyone was eagerly anticipating Muhlenberg's stifling defense was able to shut down all of Elmira's attacks, making sure that they did not get a single shot on goal until the 69th minute of the game. They say that the best defense is a good offense, and that is exactly what Muhlenberg had. The ball was kept on Elmira's side of the field for at least three quarters of the game, and Elmira never had a scoring chance until late in the second half.

Looking ahead to their game against Scranton, Miller said, "Tomorrow is going to be a tough game, but I think if we work through our minds and use our speed...we should be successful. Our speed is definitely one of our strong points and I think we play really well together. It'll definitely be a good game...I know we really want it, and we'll do what it takes to get the win."

In twelve games against the Royals, 'Berg has never won, but they were able to snap that losing streak. The game was scheduled for Saturday afternoon, but was delayed because of rain and moved to Sunday. Muhlenberg won this game 3-

1, continuing their undefeated season.

The Lady Mules seemed to lack excitement for the first 35 minutes of the game, as Scranton went out to an early lead with a goal by Eileen Sodano in the 27th minute of the game. Muhlenberg junior Kasey Hacker tied the game up with less than five minutes remaining in the first half with a shot from the top of the box that found the back of the net.

Weiss then scored the first goal of her Muhlenberg career by nudging a light shot past Scranton's goalkeeper with 34 seconds remaining, giving Muhlenberg a lead they would not give up. Miller scored for the second game in a row to give the Mules much needed insurance.

"It's so exciting playing on the field with the team," freshman Renee Dessimone said after the game. "All of us work together really well and it couldn't be better. This was a great way to start off the season and I can't wait to see how far we go."

The Lady Mules are now 4-0 for the first time in school history.



Freshman Nicolette Miller (left) handling the ball as she prepares to score; Quick thinking junior Kimberly Hacker uses her head to get past a defender.



# Is East Carolina the real deal?; USC, Ohio State face off in a colossal match-up this weekend

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Once again the East Carolina Pirates were in the headlines this Saturday as they defeated another top 25 team, this time it was the #8 West Virginia Mountaineers. ECU was able to contain the high powered West Virginia offense to only 3 points as the Pirates rolled to a 24-3 victory. Last weekend, East Carolina came from behind to beat #17 Virginia Tech 27-22. This now poses the question, is East Carolina for real? It seems so. The victory over West Virginia was the Pirates' first victory over a top 10 team since 1999 when they beat Miami, and that was also the last time ECU was ranked in the top 25. The current polls (Associated Press and USA Today) have the Pirates at 14 and 20, respectively. The stats don't lie either. East Carolina's quarterback, Patrick Pinkney, has been almost perfect as he has completed over 80% of his passes, 41 of 51, and thrown 0 interceptions along with 2 touchdowns. ECU's coach, Skip Holtz, also has some good coaching genes in his family. His father, Lou, is a Hall-of-Fame coach who led Notre Dame to their last National Championship in 1988. Skip has his team firing on all cylinders right now and this Pirates team could run the tables and finish undefeated. This weekend the Pirates head to New Orleans for their Conference USA opener against Tulane (0-1). With the tough schedules the BCS conferences play, East Carolina could be the only undefeated team come December.

Switching gears to this weekend, USC and Ohio State face off in one of the most highly anticipated non-conference match-ups we have ever seen, this Sat. at 8:00 P.M. on ABC. However, these teams enter this game in very different situations. USC is riding high with the #1 ranking and a

quarterback who was unbelievable in the Trojans' first game. USC had last weekend off, earlier they trounced Virginia 52-7 in Charlottesville. Quarterback Mark Sanchez threw for 338 yards and 3 touchdowns in the affair. Ohio State enters this game with #5 ranking but a question mark at running back. Chris "Beanie" Wells was injured in the Buckeyes' 43-0 win over Youngstown State and did not play against Ohio this past weekend. In the game against Ohio, OSU trailed heading into the fourth quarter but was able to pull out the 26-14 win. This game will not be close if Wells does not play but the word on the street is that Beanie will be ready to go come Saturday. However, the way USC has looked so far and how the Buckeyes have struggled leads me to believe this one could be over quickly.

My pick:

USC 31 - Ohio St. 17

Other games to watch this weekend:

Fri. at 8:00 P.M. on ESPN 2 - #13 Kansas at #19 South Florida

Sat. at 3:30 P.M. on CBS - #2 Georgia at South Carolina

Sat. at 10:30 P.M. on ESPN 2 - #10 Wisconsin at #21 Fresno State

Upset Special- Purdue over #16 Oregon (Sat. 3:30 P.M. on ABC)

## Women's Volleyball finishes second for the second time this year

By Matthew Howard  
SPORTS EDITOR

After finishing second at last week's Greyhound Premiere Invitational, the Muhlenberg Women's Volleyball Team looked to finish first in the Buttermaker Tournament. Unfortunately, the Mules fell short of their goal and finished in second place.

Junior star Phylcia Lee led the Mules with thirty-three kills on day one of the tournament. In the first match against King's College she recorded seventeen kills leading the Mules to a three set victory. In the second match against Medaille, Lee claimed sixteen kills as the Mules won 3-1.

On the second day of the tournament,

Muhlenberg faced a heavily favored York team. The Mules fell behind 2-1 against the Spartans. The team did not quit though. Behind another outstanding performance by Lee, they rallied back to win the next two sets and take the match. Lee recorded seventeen kills, giving her three straight matches with more than sixteen kills.

In the championship match, the Mules were again the underdog as they faced 17th ranked Stevens. The match was interrupted twice due to power surges as Hurricane Hanna passed through. Unfortunately, the power surge didn't translate to the Muhlenberg squad. They were defeated in straight sets as the Ducks held Lee to only six kills.



Freshman Davi Gordon (left) recorded 9 kills versus York; Senior Megan Eisner had 122 assists in the Buttermaker Tournament; Senior Phylcia Lee (right) made 56 kills during the tournament.

# 'Berg men record second win of season

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Muhlenberg Men's Soccer Team travelled to New York University for their third game of the season, trying to get a winning record for the first time this year.

Both of these teams received NCAA Tournament bids last season, and both were looking to come out of this game with a win. In the end, however, the Mules were able to come up with the 1-0 shutout victory.

With less than two minutes remaining in the first half, sophomore Mike Williams was able to deflect a corner kick in to the net to

give Muhlenberg a lead they would not relinquish.

Although there was no more scoring for the rest of the game, there were many more chances that the defense was able to stop. NYU hit the post and the crossbar once each, and junior 'Berg goalie Joseph Gogel was able to make a great save in the final two minutes to preserve the win.

'Berg also was stopped on two consecutive penalty kicks in the second half, and was unable to extend their lead.

The Muhlenberg men are now 2-1 and will take on Wilkes Wednesday night at Varsity Field.



Sophomore Evan Rubin slips past a Neumann defender.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

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## Sports Schedule

### Cross Country

Sat., Sept. 13 Mule/Falcon Classic (Cedar Crest)

### Field Hockey

Sat., Sept. 13 vs. Montclair State, 1:00

Wed., Sept. 17 at Drew, 7:00

### Women's Soccer

Sat., Sept. 13 vs. Neumann, 7:00

Wed., Sept. 17 at Messiah, 7:00

### Volleyball

Sept. 12 - Sept. 13 Scranton Invitational

### Men's Soccer

Sat., Sept. 13 vs. Franklin & Marshall, 7:00



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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best start in history*  
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Inside: *Women's Volleyball  
finishes second again*  
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## Mules survive a scare to open season by defeating Wilkes 34-21

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Earlier in the week there was a question if Scotty Wood Stadium would be ready for Saturday night's game between Muhlenberg and Wilkes, but the new field turf was ready to go for the seven o'clock kickoff.

The Colonels of Wilkes received the opening kick and their offense sputtered as the Mules held them to a three and out. This gave senior quarterback Eric Santagato and his offensive troops some momentum. The Mules drove 56 yards in just 5 plays and scored on a 14-yard touchdown pass to senior running back John DeLuca. On the next Mules possession, Wilkes forced a fumble and would score two plays later on a Jamar Beverly 40-yard scamper. After sophomore kicker Michael Katz's field goal put Muhlenberg up 10-7, Santagato lead the Mules on another drive that ended with a trip to the end zone. This time it was senior fullback Erik Snyder. Snyder, who had been harped by injury most of pre-season, scored on a 25-yard touchdown pass from Santagato.

The Mules headed in the locker room with a 17-7 lead, but it could have been much bigger. Muhlenberg outgained Wilkes by 212 yards (323 to 111) in the first half, but the rainy conditions helped the Colonels out as they were able to force 2 fumbles. Wilkes was fortunate to only be down 10 points at the half.

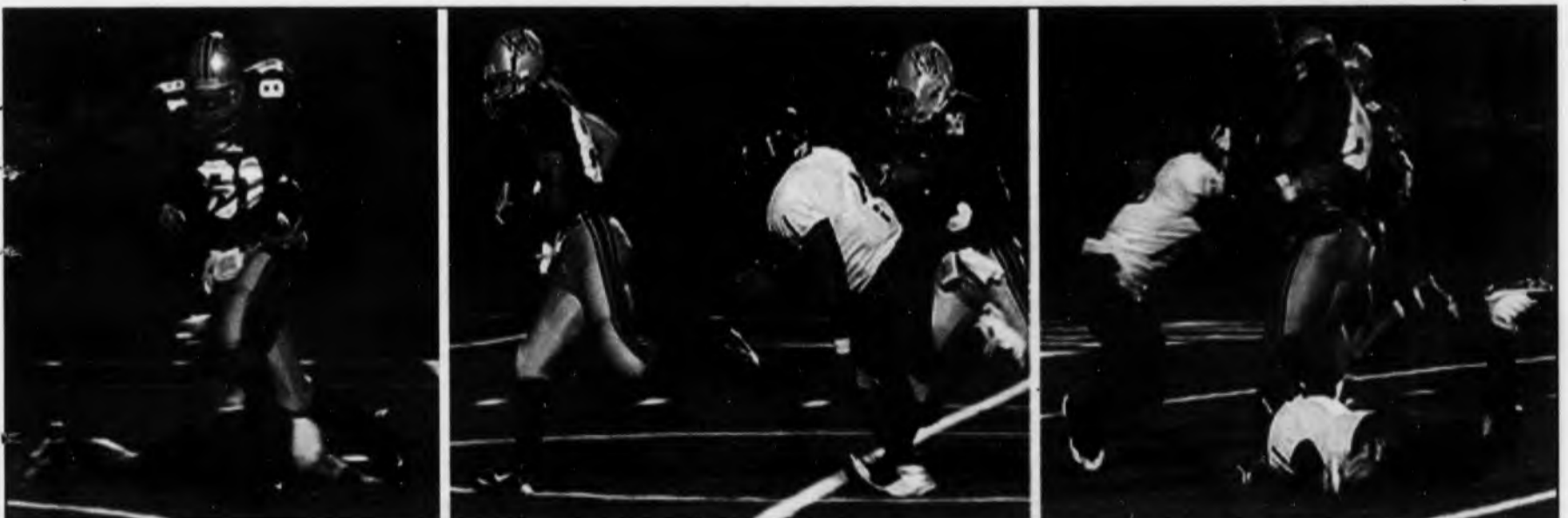
As the second half started, the Mules offense slowed down a little bit as they were unable to find the end zone in the third quarter. Wilkes scored on a 19-yard pass from Rob Johnson to Jason Prushinski. Muhlenberg added a field goal late in the quarter to extend its lead to six, but the stage was now set for an exciting final 15 minutes.

With 9:27 left in the game, Scotty Wood Stadium became silent as Wilkes scored on a 10 yard pass to Jason Prushinski and Wilkes took the lead 21-20. After a solid return by Snyder to the Mules 42-yard line, Santagato took the offense on another impressive drive. On the fifth play of the drive, Santagato connected with junior wide receiver Phil Cresta on a 35-yard touchdown pass. Cresta made three different Wilkes defenders miss as he would not be denied the

game winning score. On the ensuing kickoff, junior defensive-end Evan Wright forced a fumble and freshman defensive lineman Michael Kellum was there to recover it on the Colonels 28 yard line. The Mules would then follow their work horse, DeLuca, into the end zone for his second score of the game as Muhlenberg defeated Wilkes by 13.

The Mules offense put on a clinic against a defense that was ranked 7th in the country last season. Muhlenberg amassed for 496 total yards including 152 receiving yards by Cresta, 220 (167 rushing and 53 receiving) total yards by DeLuca, and 308 passing yards from Santagato. That was Santagato's first career 300 yard passing performance; he also had three touchdown passes with no interceptions. Santagato received Centennial Conference Player of the Week honors. Katz contributed ten points in his first game as the starting kicker. He drilled all four extra points and spilt the uprights twice on field goals.

Muhlenberg has this weekend off before they travel to Schenectady, NY on Sept. 20 to face the Union Dutchmen. The Mules next home game will be against Gettysburg on Sept. 27.



Star wide receiver junior Phil Cresta manages to elude three Wilkes defenders on his way to the end zone.

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 3

*Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

# 9/11 never forget remembrance vigil

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY ASST. NEWS EDITOR

"We all remember where we were when we heard the news..." President Helm began, standing on the front lawn amidst a crowd of students and families who gathered on Thurs., Sept. 11 to commemorate the tragedy that occurred seven years ago. The candlelight vigil, as planned and presented by the College Republicans, was a gathering that gave students the opportunity to come together and pay respects to the thousands of Americans who lost their lives in the attacks.

Upon arriving, the scene that this event presented was a striking one. Over two thousand miniature American flags had been stuck in the ground behind our two flagpoles, one which bore our stars and stripes dangling at half mast. The flags in the ground were meant to represent each of the 2,977 people whose lives were sacrificed in the terrorist attacks, four of them Muhlenberg alumni. "Having all the flags, each one representing someone who was murdered, it definitely has more of an impact on people than just saying that we want to remember all the victims. It specifies each one of them individually," said College Republicans' president, Lauren Spirko to a WFMZ Channel 69 news reporter earlier that day of the display. One hundred and eighty campuses across the country hosted similar memorials as a tribute to each of the victims.

Following eight chimes of the clock tower, a silent crowd gathered around the College display. A respectful introduction preceded the words of student body president, Sara Keller. She eloquently remarked on the true heroism of the thousands of people involved, those who risked or even gave their lives in trying to save others, and how we should be inspired by their actions. She expressed that if we unite ourselves in the memory of their bravery, we, too, can live up to their heroism.

After Sara's speech, it was President Helm's voice which rung through the speakers. He began by asking us to remember the day and our reactions to the tragic news, but continued by calling upon us to remember the heroes



*Two thousand nine hundred and seventy seven flags stood on the front lawn to represent those whose lives were lost in the September 11, 2001 tragedy.*

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA



*The College's remembrance display is one of eighty of it's kind on college campuses across the country.*

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

who were there at what became known as Ground Zero. Our president went on to acknowledge Sept. 11, 2001 as the day which is commonly remembered as the beginning of terrorism here in America. He explained, however, that terrorism did not begin when that first plane crashed into one of the Twin Towers. Instead, it began when the first slave ship came from overseas and landed on our American shores. We are not immune to terrorism, we never have been. But in remembrance of this specific incident of tragedy beyond what we could even imagine, we must step up, President Helm said, and become "the heroes that God has called us to be" in order to help combat terrorism in every part of the world.

President Helm concluded his remarks by expressing his hope that we would all pray for the families of those who were lost in the attacks, especially those of the four former Muhlenberg students. He asked that we remember the heroism of the people who risked everything for the sake of saving others, and then let the night slip back into a reflective silence.

After a few moments, President Helm and Sara Keller emerged with lighted candles and began to approach the somber crowd. The small flickers of light began to spread as student after student turned to share the flame with a friend.

Once everyone's candle was lit, taps began to play as everyone stood, heads bowed, in remembrance and respect. Closed eyes were opened to reveal teardrops of wax slipping down each candlestick and our flag slowly lowering down the flagpole. Everyone simply stood for a time in collective silence while candles burned and our flag was distinguishably removed and folded.

Eventually, the stillness was broken, but the silence remained aside from the steady thud of melted candles landing in the designated metal bins along the edge of the grass. The group that had gathered slowly began to disperse; people going off in different directions to finish their homework or grab a bite to eat in Seegers. But the feeling that had captured our hearts and our minds remained in the air; a reminder that even seven years later: no, we will never forget.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

## Give those tired fingers a rest

We were shocked and saddened to hear about the train crash in Los Angeles this past weekend that killed twenty-five people and injured over 138. However, when we found out that the reason for the crash may have been because the engineer was text messaging, we couldn't help but feel a little angry.

According to msn.com the engineer of the Los Angeles commuter train may have been text messaging, and because of that he may have ran a stop signal, causing his train to crash into an upcoming freight train, resulting in all that death and destruction

We know humans err...we know. There have been numerous examples of this throughout history... but because of text messaging? Really? Not an incorrect formula or overestimating time...texting. It makes you wonder about common decency and responsibility. Why would you do something so risky with so many lives at stake?

Come to think of it, why would anyone put themselves or others at risk because of texting, of all things? Is it really that important that you have to take the time to spell it out, scroll through your phone book and click send right at that very moment? While operating heavy machinery, while watching a train's course, or while driving?

Apparently, the latter is quite a common practice. Because of this recent tragedy five states have banned text messaging while driving and five others have pending bills against it. But we have to ask, is all the legislation necessary? Shouldn't it be common sense to keep your eyes on the road, or tracks, or wherever they are needed, in order to save your life as well as the lives of others?

We know that the engineer made a mistake, and we grieve his death and those of his passengers, but we would like to point out how grave one mistake can be. Everyone should remember that the next time they whip out their phones while otherwise engaged, claiming that it isn't a problem because "it will only take a second." That second could have serious consequences. Just wait. Wait to talk to whoever is on the receiving end. As hard as it may be, for goodness sake, PUT AWAY THE CELL PHONE.

## A toast to President Helm

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

If you're a party-goer like I am, the experience of the police coming to break up a shindig is something that you've experienced too many times. If the booze is abundant and the crowd is loud, then it's really only a matter of time before it gets busted. What makes things worse is that the majority of the party crowd - and much of the school - are under the legal drinking age of twenty-one. When Allentown Police Department tells everyone under twenty-one to get out of the house, it's lights out on the party, as the rest of the people scatter to either the GQ or another bar like Lupo's.

The fact is that a drinking age as high as we have in the United States - the closest other Westernized countries come to twenty-one is Canada, where the age limit is nineteen in most provinces - makes your average partygoer a guilty victim.

This has not gone unnoticed by heads of colleges: this June, during a meeting of the Annapolis Group - of which the College is a member of - the president emeritus of Middlebury College in Vermont proposed that the current drinking age is not working and that elected officials need to seriously debate lowering the age limit, thus creating the Amethyst Initiative. President Randy Helm, who said that he has advocated such a debate for

*We should at least foster a debate on whether or not twenty-one years old is the right age limit for alcohol consumption.*

some time, made the College one of the first signatories.

Since then, the Initiative has gained traction and has one hundred and thirty signatories. These include other Lehigh Valley colleges (Moravian, Lafayette, and Cedar Crest), state and private universities (Johns Hopkins, Duke, and the state college systems of Massachusetts and Maryland), and even community colleges and specialty schools. It has not met without its fair share of resistance, as two colleges backed off after the subsequent backlash.

Our college should not follow that example. If our officials cannot lower the drinking age in the country, we should at least foster a debate on whether or not twenty-one years old is the right age limit for alcohol consumption. That's something that I'll drink to.

*A drinking age as high as we have in the United States makes your average party-goer a guilty victim.*

## It's a sad world when it comes down to Facebook

By Rebecca Sachs  
WEEKLY WRITER

I was at the poster sale when my friend and I first saw him, and subsequently named him as "Pajama Pants Boy," (PJPB for short). He was tall, with hair typically attributed to surfers. My friend and I admired him from afar, making remarks usually known as stereotypical for males. Now, whenever we see him, our elbows give the PJPB-nudge.

But why just a nudge to each other? Is it sufficient enough? There is that feeling of frustration that within seconds overpowers that of some sort of lust. For some reason (which is known but will not be said, for we girls need to save some face) we don't go up and introduce ourselves. I can think of two reasons, for this both of which happened to be learned from

chances we had. This could include the idea that we are aggressive and therefore promiscuous; or, my personal favorite, we are losers for going up to them, like we couldn't get any guys to come up to us.

And if a girl is drunk and goes up to a guy? All respect is lost and gone forever, and it is assumed that this introduction is some sort of booty call.

So why, oh why, are boys so oblivious, or maybe even lazy? Another aspect of boy-and-girl interactions that has been forced upon us since birth is that boys are to always make

*We girls then are left to our last resort, one which society has not really come up with rules for yet: Facebook.*

the first move. We as girls sit there patiently, shooting looks and making eye contact with them, yet they pretend not to notice. Is it just easier that way, boys?

So here is what happens: eventually the overwhelming feeling of frustration becomes motivation.

We girls are then left to our last resort, one which society has not really come up with rules for yet: Facebook.

It makes me cringe to even think about it. We

stalk the guy and send a message along the following lines: "Hi. I know this is random, but I was wondering if you wanted to meet at GQ..." Or, if there's been even the smallest bit of interaction, we incorporate that into the message, like

*Acting like we aren't bothered by the word that shall not be spoken is all the more enticing to them.*

so: "So, I just wanted to say sorry for that noise I made...I guess you can say I was nervous... ;)." Yes, the smiley is crucial. It's to up for what the Y-chromosome lacks—perception.

If something comes out of it, that's great. If not, there's no I-wish-I-was-dead type of embarrassment. In fact, we use it to our advantage. Acting like we aren't bothered by the word that shall not be spoken is all the more enticing to them.

So girls, make it obvious. Put yourself out there in the only way society allows us without having any sort of stigma. Send a message and a smiley, as sad as it is. And boys, don't be so stupid, for we are stuck with these expectations based on how we so much as look at you.

And until you let them go, we cannot even try to move past the ridiculous usage of Facebook.



# Palin's Problems



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

Palin, you can see how she fits the George W. Bush/Dick Cheney mold that was established over the last eight years.

Palin appeals to the Christian Right which carried George W. Bush to victories in the last two elections. She is as pro-life as humanly possible, by not supporting an abortion in any circumstance including incest and rape. Palin is against sex education in schools and wants "abstinence" only taught. You know the rest of her positions because they fit the format the Christian Right demanded out of John McCain, so I won't bother stating how she feels about same sex relations and creationism being taught in science classes.

Palin really doesn't have any foreign relations experience, but then again neither did George W. Bush. She got her start in politics as the member of a party whose main goal was to have Alaska secede from the United States. As a matter of fact, Palin didn't even have a passport in July of 2007. Yet, that's alright; according to Republicans

she is just a "hockey mom," a common lady of the people, who you could see as your next door neighbor. Why would you want some Ivy-league elitist running your country, when you could have your neighbor do it? I don't know about you, but I don't see being "elite" at something as a negative. I don't really want an average person one heartbeat away from running the country, whose political career consists of being mayor of a town with more trees than people, and being governor of Alaska for two years.

She does fit the newly established Republican mold of secrecy and cronyism however. In Alaska, Palin made a habit of hiring under-qualified former classmates for major government positions. She hired five of her previous schoolmates for major positions in administration and gave them jobs which paid substantially higher than their previous ones. We saw how that kind of thinking paid off when one of George W. Bush's old pals handled Hurricane Katrina, didn't we? Palin had a common practice of hiding

information and forcing staff members to use private e-mail accounts that couldn't be traced, which sounds very Dick Cheney like. Another Bush/Cheney tradition that Palin embodies is her propensity to be missing in action. Records show that since taking office in 2007 she spent 312 nights in her Wasilla home, which is over 600 miles from the governor's mansion. Mayors and lawmakers became so frustrated with her ignorance and lack of attendance, they wore "Where's Sarah?" pins at a recent legislative session.

John McCain needed somebody who could lock down all those Bush Republicans who weren't sure about him due to his old "maverick" ways. He found somebody in Sarah Palin who could win those people over with her religious extremism, lack of knowledge in foreign policy, and "common woman" persona. Just another average person to do a below average job in a highly important position...way to go Republicans.

Maybe it makes sense that John McCain picked Sarah Palin to be his Vice Presidential candidate. At first glance, it didn't add up that he would select somebody as inexperienced as her when a large percentage of his argument against Obama is that he isn't ready to lead at such a young age. However, if you take a closer look at

*She is as pro-life as humanly possible, by not supporting an abortion in any circumstance including incest and rape.*

## Reduce the power of government

By Chris Grau  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Democrats can rejoice because regardless of who wins the Presidency, George W. Bush will not be that person. Anger over the way

the government has been run in the past eight years may in fact be the best tool that Democrats have this election. Would it surprise you, however, that a number of Republicans are angry with the way things have gone? Certain political and philosophical factions often ally themselves with the Republicans due to the nature of our two party system. These groups, however, rarely agree on anything beyond one simple idea: the government is too big.

Those of us who believe that the government is too large and that people should take responsibility for themselves are not thrilled with the way modern Republicans have become a party of big government and spending. Various foreign adventures, educational experiments, and the new Dept. of Homeland Security have brought about one of the largest expansions of the federal government since the New Deal, and deficit spending continues to contribute to a rising national debt that needs to be paid off eventually.

The government needs to be reigned in lest we continue down the path that has been restricting our freedoms. I assert that the government has little power under the constitution to restrict what we do in the bedroom or with our wallets, and that these restrictions will only lead to the decline of this great nation. Whose business is it to know what books I am reading, and why must the government approve the opening of a new barber shop? It is these laws, with no point other than to expand the office of some bureaucrat, which slow our economic growth and needlessly regulate morality.

If you are worried about the direction our country is going, with government bailouts, using our money, offered to any business that is incompetent enough to run itself into the ground, then make your voice heard. My suite often puts up with my roommate and myself debating laws passed by FDR or an interpretation of the Commerce Clause. These arguments may sound arcane, but they are about important issues like the role that government should have in our lives. Just because a minimalist government is not en vogue right now does not mean it is wrong.

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# Write for OP/ED!

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## All hail Oprah

By Rachel Majkszak  
ASST. OP/ED EDITOR

Oprah aired a graphic episode in an attempt to combat child predators. Protecting our children by decreasing child pornography and predatory attacks is a cause that I think we can all agree with. But did it really take Oprah's approval to make people realize this? Apparently so.

After seeing the show, my roommates declared that they were ready to write to their senators to convince them to vote for United States Senate Bill 1738, The Protect Our Children Act. The name alone sounds like a good idea to anyone with a heart (except maybe members of the American Civil Liberties Union). I applaud all of the Oprah fanatics who are taking this opportunity to get involved and speak their mind about the issues. At the same time, I am increasingly troubled that they needed convincing from Queen Oprah to take action.

This election season, Oprah has been an avid political voice, making her adoration of Barack Obama well known, and her distaste for Sarah Palin loud and clear. While Sarah Palin may be seen as the new next door neighbor that many women find themselves relating to, Oprah is still the fabulous woman who left the neighborhood and convinced everyone to turn against the new

*Don't forget that you have your own opinions, too, and you should consider them to discover what is really important.*

girl on the block. While I've never been a fan of Oprah (in fact, she may be my least favorite talk show host), I realize that as a television personality she has the ability, and the right, to broadcast her views to whoever chooses to watch her. Ellen DeGeneres, Jay Leno, or the ladies on The View may do the same thing, but I do not see their opinions being worshiped on a level similar to religious doctrine.

Obviously Monday's episode of Oprah promoted a cause the majority of us can see as worthwhile (sorry, Libertarians) rather than being a slanted political endorsement. Hopefully Oprah's call to action will bring about a response from the community and encourage political action on the part of ordinary Oprah-loving citizens. Just because Oprah may be your personal idea of God, don't forget that you have your own opinions, too, and you should consider them, possibly in conjunction with Oprah's, to discover what is really important to you. So write to your senators about Oprah's favorite issues if you agree with them, but don't forget to write to them about your significant issues too.

*This election season, Oprah has been an avid political voice, making her adoration of Barack Obama well known.*

## Anti-Intellectualism

By Jason LaMarca  
WEEKLY WRITER

There is an unfortunate trend of anti-intellectualism pervasive in America, the College, and among other institutions of higher education. The trend that I'm referring to is not the "I don't understand why people don't like elites who look down on conservatives and don't elect them to run the country," anti-intellectual argument. What I'm referring to is an actual disdain for ideas. Both major political parties are guilty of the rejection of each others' ideas based on nothing more than that they are the ideas of the other side.

I've had countless interactions where I've mentioned that I'm a

conservative, only to watch a vague look of horror cross the face of the person with whom I'm speaking. From that statement they presume to know everything about me and escape as soon as manners would allow. Monday night, I left a College Republicans meeting with a McCain yard sign for my room. I walked into the GQ to get some food, and a group of people noticed the sign, stopped talking, and stared at me like I was the creature with three heads.

However, I sometimes fall into that trap myself. One friend from home barrages me with links to articles from the Daily Koz and Salon. I'll read the articles, but with the assumption that everything in them is worthless. I also have a tendency to stop listening and retreat to my happy place when someone suggests

that all cultures are equally correct and moral. Tell that to the slaves in cultures where that's still acceptable.

We are at college to learn (well most of us). However, if all you do is self-propagandize by surrounding yourself with like-minded people, reading books that enforce what you already believe, and write off half the country as hicks or out-of-touch bleeding hearts, then you're denying yourself a richer experience.

If you find someone who disagrees with you, engage him or her in conversation. Listen to why they think you're wrong, and then explain why you think their arguments are flawed. Maintain civility while challenging the other side's assumptions, because you would be surprised at the amount of people

across the aisle that have ideas of genuine worth. The very minimum you'll gain from doing this will be a better understanding of how to

*If you find someone who disagrees with you, engage him or her in conversation. Listen to why they think you're wrong.*

defeat the argument you think is wrong (and possibly an ulcer/high blood pressure). President Helm said it best at the Obama Campaign stop last year. In his introduction he mentioned that he looked forward to also hosting John McCain in the future. Many in the crowd booed. Rather than let that pass, President Helm told the crowd that if they listened to people they disagreed with, they'd become smarter for doing so. The woman behind me booed over what he tried to say next and told her friend she thought that he was rude. I guess she missed the point.

# The Muhlenberg Weekly

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- ASSISTANT BUSINESS
- WRITER MANAGER

Note: The asterisk indicates Executive Board member

Please answer the following questions for each position on a separate sheet of paper:

1. What qualifications do you have for the position to which you are applying? (Include both personal and professional qualities.)
2. Please describe in detail previous experience with The Weekly or other newspapers/publications, etc. Include computer experience and knowledge here.
3. What campus activities are you involved in?
4. What kind of time commitment do you think the position entails? To what extent are you willing to commit yourself to The Weekly? BE SPECIFIC.
5. What are the greatest strengths and weaknesses you see in The Weekly currently?
6. What are some new ideas you would like to institute through the position?
7. What is an interesting fact about you that most people don't know?

Please return your completed application to Luanne Linares, Editor-in-Chief, Campus Box 0106. You will be contacted to confirm an interview time when your application is received.

For job descriptions or any other questions, please contact  
Luanne at LL233789@muhlenberg.edu or weeklyeditor@gmail.com



# Sam Bennett Addresses Students and Faculty

By Brittany Rodriguez  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Former resident of Allentown and democratic congressional candidate for the Lehigh Valley, Sam Bennett addressed students and faculty at the College on Sept. 10 in the hopes of making them aware of who she is and what she represents as she prepares to run for Congress in November.

During her lecture, she informed students of the goals she wishes to see accomplished. On the issue of troops in Iraq, she feels it is critical to take care of our troops but also to focus on the necessary steps needed to bring them home as soon as possible.

In addition, she will work to ensure that our veterans receive the health care and educational benefits that they have earned. Charles W. Dent, Bennett's opponent, has voted with President Bush one hundred percent of the time on the war in Iraq, even when he knew there were no weapons of mass destruction at the time, according to Bennett.

Bennett, a very proactive leader in Lehigh Valley, created a program to train high school students for skilled, good-paying jobs while rehabilitating Lehigh Valley's largest public high school. She also started a statewide non-profit organization that encourages people to fix up their homes, while keeping neighborhoods clean and safe.

As a mother of three – two of whom

attended private colleges and one who is younger – Bennett is extremely upset with her opponent's voting to increase student

loan interest rates, which would make student loans much less affordable. This situation would eventually only allow the

wealthy to receive an excellent education.

With close ties to the College – her ex-husband, Jeffrey Tipping, was the varsity soccer coach, and one of her daughters was a student here – Bennett hoped that the students learned a great deal about the issues in order to make a well informed decision in November. "Muhlenberg has been and will always be very important to me," she said.

Bennett continues to raise sufficient funds through a popular democratic online fundraising method. Through Actblue.com, Bennett raised \$14,835 making her among the top five fundraisers this week, which is a step up from being in the top ten a previous week. With such strong online support Bennett is hoping to unseat Dent, the Lehigh Valley's republican congressional candidate.

For those interested in learning more about Sam Bennett prior to the Nov. 4 election, visit her website at Bennett2008.com. Not registered to vote? Go to <http://www.votespa.com>, prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of State to download a voter registration form.

*"With close ties to Muhlenberg...Bennett hoped that the students learned great deal about the issues in order to make an informed decision in November."*

## GUEST CHEF RICHARD NIESENBAUM




COME LEARN  
MORE ABOUT  
LOCAL  
FARMING



WHEN  
WHERE  
TIME

SEPT 24th  
GARDEN ROOM  
4:30 to 7:30

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
<b>Sunny</b>	<b>Sunny</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>
<b>High: 68</b> <b>Low: 47</b>	<b>High: 73</b> <b>Low: 49</b>	<b>High: 73</b> <b>Low: 51</b>

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!  
Email

[theweeklynews@gmail.com](mailto:theweeklynews@gmail.com)

# Woodrow Wilson Fellow, Dr. Musil, speaks on campus

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY ASST. NEWS EDITOR

We've all watched Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" in Fitness and Wellness Freshman year. Most of us had seen at least parts of it in high school history classes while studying current events before that. But imagine working alongside the former vice president himself, hearing his inconvenient truths firsthand and searching for ways to overcome them.

Now, stop trying to imagine it, because the College was recently visited by a man who lived it. Dr. Robert K. Musil is a Scholar in Residence and Professor at American University's School of International Studies. He has a Masters in Public Health from Johns Hopkins and is also a graduate of both Yale and Northwestern. While his resume continues extensively, he is currently a Woodrow Wilson Foundation Visiting Fellow who has spent the past year accepting numerous requests to give lectures on college campuses.

Dr. Amy Hark, co-director of the biochemistry major and assistant biology professor here at the College, submitted one of these requests. She is also the chair of the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow Committee on campus. Every year, the College takes part in this program, which is administered by the Council of Independent Colleges of Washington, D.C.

The program's goal, as taken from their website, is to bring "prominent artists, diplomats,

journalists, business leaders, and other non-academic professionals to campuses across the United States for a week-long residential program of classes, seminars, workshops, lectures, and informal discussions." For the past thirty five years, the Visiting Fellows in this program, such as Dr. Musil, have been offering numerous perspectives on life, society, community, and achievement to both students and faculty at liberal arts colleges across the country.

The goal of Dr. Hark and the committee this year was to find and request a Visiting Fellow whose views would contribute to the Center for Ethics and its theme of "Politics, Ethics, and Citizenship." "Following conversations at the Center for Ethics planning events last spring, Dr.

Robert Musil emerged as a top choice who we believed could speak to environmental and other issues relevant in the general election," Dr. Hark said of the committee's final selection.

Dr. Musil's lecture last Tues., Sept. 9, entitled "Hope for a Heated Planet: How Americans are Fighting Global Warming and for a Better Future," was free for Muhlenberg students and drew a crowd. He discussed his work as it was carried out through close relations with Bill Clinton, Al Gore, and numerous other public leaders.

The lecture included topics to be found in his book of the same title, which has already sold approximately 3.8 million copies in presale

alone. His main focus was on what we can do to help in climate change control. While he encouraged students that every individual can make a difference through making small changes to preserve energy, Musil also acknowledged the much bigger picture. He said that we can't just

change light bulbs; we need to change the nation, and followed with a proposal for the restructuring of the international system and converting places from major corporations to libraries and churches to wind power.

In addition to his lecture, Dr. Musil remained on campus to host an open luncheon on the topic of "Why Students are Ready Now to Lead Us"

and to attend numerous classes to speak to students about his career and allow them to ask questions. "What was interesting about Dr. Musil's lecture was that this topic of global warming was able to apply to different fields of study, such as government, business, and public health," said Jennifer Neumann, a sophomore here at the College who heard Dr. Musil speak a total of three times for different classes.

In review of Dr. Musil's lecture, Dr. Hark hoped that his words would inspire students to do their part. "In his lecture, Dr. Musil related some personal anecdotes and shared his perspective on the history and future of fighting global climate change," Dr. Hark recalled. "My hope is that the campus community will continue conversations around this important issue."

*"The lecture included topics to be found in his book...which has already sold approximately 3.8 million copies in presale alone."*

*"The program's goal is to bring 'prominent artists, diplomats, journalists, business leaders, and other non-academic professionals to campuses across the United States..."*

## OFF CAMPUS

### Hurricane Ike floods midwest

Roads in the midwest were under water on Tuesday leaving more than one million people without power.

Ike caused several rivers in Missouri to rise more than fifteen feet above flood stage causing several Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri towns to flood as much as eight inches after ravishing Texas over the weekend. More than a million people fled the Texas Gulf Coast last week to wait out the storm. Many people are on their way back home now to find that they are without power, water or houses to live in.

The havoc wreaking rain and wind of Ike in the midwest now brings the death toll to at least forty-seven in ten states from the Gulf Coast to the Upper Ohio Valley. The turbulent storm also knocked out the power of more than two million homes and businesses across the Midwest, most of them in Ohio.

Although the Bush Administration lost credibility with its slow response to Hurricane Katrina, Bush reassured the country that, "we'll continue to monitor the situation to make sure people are taken care of."

President Bush advised that people displaced by Ike listen to local officials before returning home and reassured that the government will help, as will relief organizations like the American Red Cross. He also announced that the government will reimburse displaced residents who are spending up to thirty days in temporary housing. He stated, "If we have to use mobile homes - that will be a state call - we have them available."

### Hurricane preparedness

*what to have on hand*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Manual can opener                        | 11. Traditional corded telephone  |
| 2. Paper plates and plastic utensils        | 12. Mosquito repellent  |
| 3. Rain gear, waterproof shoes              | 13. Household chlorine bleach and disinfectant  |
| 4. Bedding                                  | 14. Copies of important documents   |
| 5. Gallon sized freezer bags for making ice | 15. Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled family members                              |
| 6. Fuel for your generator or chain saw.    | 16. Written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas and water if authorities advise it |
| 7. First aid kit                            | 17. Duct tape and masking tape  |
| 8. Tool kit                                 | 18. Toys, books and games for the kids  |
| 9. Plastic bucket with tight lid            |   |
| 10. Battery powered radio and flashlight    |   |

Information Courtesy of The Morning Call



## Correction!

In the article "GSA sex store a success" in last week's issue, the "T" in LGBT was incorrectly defined as transvestite. The correct term is transgender. We apologize for this oversight.

## Writing & Information Consultation Center

Level A, Trexler Library

A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR  
WRITING AND RESEARCH NEEDS!

Drop-in hours to meet with writing tutors:  
Sunday-Wednesday 3PM-11PM Thursday 3PM-5PM & 7PM-9PM

Drop-in assistance with research anytime  
and research consultations by appointment.

## Campus Safety Notes

Sept. 8 - Disorderly Conduct - Student harassed another student via computer using intimidating and vulgar language. Will be referred to Judicial Process and Residential Services.

Sept. 8 - Vandalism - Vehicle's antenna was pulled off and laying on ground on 2400 block of Liberty Street. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 9 - Alarms - A fire alarm went off in Haas due to power outage/lighting. Alarm was silenced and reset.

Sept. 9 - Alarms - A fire alarm went off in Ettinger due to power outage, lightning affected panel boards and suppressors. Alarm eventually silenced, Simplex responded to fix damaged equipment.

Sept. 9 - Theft - At least 44 black chairs stolen from Life Sports Center fieldhouse between Saturday and Tuesday. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 9 - Investigative - Individual identified as a non-student on Level A of Trexler Library was found looking at pornography and was advised to leave campus and would be arrested if they returned.

Sept. 9 - Dispatch Code - Report of lost parking sticker Brown #1111 08/09 prior to being placed on vehicle.

Sept. 9 - Medical - A Sodexo employee fell and injured themselves. MCEMS was requested and cleared the person, who refused further medical assistance.

Sept. 9 - Theft - Student reported that money was taken from their wallet on third floor of Martin Luther Hall while room was occupied. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 10 - Alarms - A fire alarm went off at 2238 Gordon St. that was caused by housekeeper cleaning the shower.

Sept. 10 - Theft - 8' table valued at \$120 dropped off at side of Delta Zeta house was missing when residents when to look for it for event. No suspects at this time.

Sept. 10 - Disorderly Conduct - Person in Haas reported receiving harassing phone call from an office supply company. Incident still under investigation.

Sept. 10 - Alarms - Fire alarm activated at 415 Leh Street by smoke from cooking.

Sept. 10 - Medical - A student in Brown may have broken their finger and requested MCEMS. Health Center notified, student refused further medical treatment.

Sept. 10 - Medical - Student reported that a student on Prosser Annex Second Floor was feeling faint and requested MCEMS. Health Center notified, student transported to hospital.

Sept. 10 - Alarms - Fire alarm activated at 2235 Gordon St. by steam from shower. Officer reported all clear.

Sept. 11 - Medical - Report of student on Prosser First floor who had passed out who had given blood previously. MCEMS and Health Center notified and student transported to Health Center.

Sept. 11 - Medical - Student having anxiety attack in Brown Hall dance studio, Health Center notified. Student transported to Health Center.

Sept. 11 - Theft - Service

Electric TV aluminum ladder marked SECTV on side stolen from Brown basement that had been set against wall between room 002 and exit, said that went to Telco closet and returned and ladder was gone. No suspects at this time.

Sept. 11 - Alarms - A fire alarm went off on Robertson Hall third floor due to cooking.

Sept. 11 - Alarms - A fire alarm went off at 419 Leh St. due to steam from shower.

Sept. 11 - Medical - Student in Life Sports Center having reaction to medication. MCEMS and Health Center advised. Student refused further treatment.

Sept. 12 - Medical - RA report from Brown Hall third floor of student sick due to underage drinking. Officer called Allentown EMS, who transported student to hospital.

Sept. 12 - Noise Complaint - Students yelled and banged on door of 417 Leh St. and were reported. Officers found and confiscated 3 pellet guns. APD assisted. Referred to judicial for terroristic threats, disorderly conduct and noise violation.

Sept. 12 - Forcible Rape - Student reported a rape from 2006 in Tremont Apartments. Suspect is known and Campus Safety is investigating the incident.

Sept. 12 - Disorderly Conduct - Student getting harassed via cell phone, computer, and in person. Suspect attends another college. Campus Police at other institution was notified and will speak with suspect.

Sept. 12 - Medical - Student twisted foot/ankle.

Health Center notified and officer transported person to Health Center.

Sept. 12 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounded at 2442 Tilghman St., activated from steam from shower.

Sept. 12 - Dispatch Code - Assist with Residential Services checking on student in Walz Hall. Student was located.

Sept. 13 - Liquor Law - Residential Services contacted Campus Safety about underage possession of alcohol on Prosser Annex First Floor. Referred to Judicial.

Sept. 13 - Assault - Assault on student walking on 22nd St. Witnesses report verbal argument between victim and suspects prior to incident. Student sent to hospital for treatment. Suspects described as two white "college age" males with blonde hair. Incident being investigated by APD, anyone with information should call 610-437-7751 or Campus Safety at 484-664-3112. Notification via e-mail and Message Board made to campus community.

Sept. 13 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounded from Brown Hall third floor stairwell. Called Keystone for electrician because detector was malfunctioning.

Sept. 13 - Vandalism - Report that black Honda Civic in 26th & Chew St. parking lot passenger window smashed and had GPS unit and MP3 player removed. Buildings and grounds assisted victim with cleaning glass, no suspects at this time.

Sept. 13 - Medical - Student in Prosser Hall not feeling well. EMS and Health Center were paged, student was transported to Hospital.

Sept. 13 - Liquor Law - Individual with alcohol violation on Albright St. provided officers with information on where student was drinking and who had provided the alcohol. Upon arrival most people were gone including specific individual whose name was given. Still under investigation.

Sept. 14 - Vandalism - Broken table valued at \$55 in Parent's Plaza. Group of males but unidentified, one jumped on table causing it to break.

Sept. 14 - Disorderly Conduct - Owner of Liberty St. Tavern reported a harassment problem with student who was previously arrested for using a fake I.D. Owner was advised to file harassment charges at magistrates office by APD.

Sept. 14 - Disorderly Conduct - Fight in progress/ harassment report from Liberty St. Tavern due to altercation which occurred inside bar between a student and a non-student. Handled by APD.

Sept. 14 - Investigative - 2 Black males reported being suspicious in white t-shirts and jeans 1 with baseball hat on N 22nd St. Both were located and identified Allentown Police assisted in identifying both individuals (non-students). Letters of Trespass to be issued.

Sept. 14 - Medical - Student of Prosser hall came to Campus Safety office asking to speak with EMS or Nurse. EMS and Health Center paged and student transported.

Campus Safety would like to remind student to be aware of their surroundings and notify Campus Safety immediately if an incident occurs of they feel suspicious of people or events.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"To love is to risk not being loved in return. To hope is to risk pain. To try is to risk failure, but risk must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing."

- Anonymous

## The Magnificent Adventures of Heartache

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Releasing a new CD on the same day that the highly anticipated new Jonas Brothers album came out is not necessarily the most intelligent marketing strategy.

It's similar to how other movies attempting to duke it out for number one were released the same weekend as *The Dark Knight* earlier this summer. The difference, however, lays in the fact that although *The Dark Knight* broke box office records, there were still a significant amount of people who weren't in the mood for the caped crusader, and instead opted to dance along in the aisles of theaters screening *Mamma Mia*.

The same goes for the release of *The Magnificent Adventures of Heartache*, the debut album by singer/songwriter Jason Reeves. While the record by no means required the same type of Best Buy stock shipments as the Jonas Brothers did, the people who chose to go a different route and actually listen to real music rather than talentless whiny bubblegum pop were the ones who picked up this album.

With his singer/songwriter appeal

and radio-friendly hooks, Reeves could very easily be on track to being the next Gavin DeGraw.

To be completely honest, when I first read about Reeves I was a little bit skeptical to hear his music. The reason being he's always being cited as the co-writer of ten tracks on Colbie Caillat's album "Coco," including the song "Bubbly," one of the most painfully cheesy and vomit-inducing love songs of recent memory. With lyrics such as "what am I gonna say when you make me feel this way, I just mmmmm..."

I was apprehensive to listen to an album by someone who prided themselves on said songwriting. After first listening to his record, however, I'll be the first to admit that I was completely wrong to judge.

Maybe Reeves held out on Caillat to save music for his own album because his songwriting is nearly flawless. Top that with his lush melodies and soothing vocals, and not only does he completely trump Caillat, but he puts her entire album to shame.

The album opens with "Someone Somewhere," a mid-tempo song with feel good lyrics and guitar tabs

that will make you sit and bob your head along to the music without even noticing you're doing it. It's a cute song that could very easily be heard in the last ten minutes of a chick flick when the couple realizes how much they love one another. Expect to see the song on at least one such soundtrack by this time next year.

With its acoustic upbeat melody, the next track, "Happy Accident," sounds like a song that was accidentally left off John Mayer's "Room For Squares" album. It fuses the perfect elements of pop and folk to create a lovely little song about fate. The track is then followed by "You In A Song," a very Ryan Cabrer-esque song that shows off how much of a charmer Reeves can be. It's not hard to picture him standing with his guitar singing the song to a girl he wants to win over.

While the album begins with optimism and romance, those are certainly not the themes of the entire record. "Just Friends" for instance, finds Reeves lamenting about unrequited love and sings that "those two words are bullets in my chest." Similarly, "Gasoline" shows a side of Reeves that is not previously seen

on the record.

Instead of the quirky poetics of most of his previous lyrics, the track shows an exposed and bitterly vengeful man whose heart was completely broken.

The song opens with the lyrics "She takes a drink, she's had a few, she wants not to feel guilty. Empties the glass and shakes her ass, forgets that she is filthy. She knows the game, they're all the same, she's gonna use her body. She strikes a match as she is covering my heart with gasoline, and I'm going down much faster than anything I've ever seen. Gasoline, and she's a heartless bitch telling me to keep my mouth clean." Not only is this the angriest and most emotionally charged song on the album, it is also the most instrumentally heavy.

When I finished listening to the record, there was one song in particular that I wanted to go back to and hear again just because of how much it stood out. "The Fragrant Taste Of Rain" showcases Reeves doing his best Leonard Cohen impression by alternating spoken word with singing.

SEE REEVES | PAGE 12

## Homecoming Nominees announced!

Nominees for the 2008 Homecoming King and Queen have been announced. These twenty preliminary nominees have been chosen by the senior class and will be narrowed down to five each, after interviews on Sept. 15 and 16. Those final candidates will then be voted on by the senior class on Sept. 23 and 24.

The nominees this year are:

Ryan Acquotta  
Michael Cali  
Ross Cohen  
Matthew Fash  
Matthew Franzetti  
Adam Hirsh  
Robert Janowitz  
Ryan Kurtis  
Oren Smith  
Paul Thaler

Hannah Burke  
Dana Harrington  
Ruth Morrongiello  
Kelly Owens  
Dana Parisi  
Caitlin Pawson  
Leah Rovner  
Maria Ruppert  
Stephanie Siegel  
Christina Vergos

Congratulations and best wishes to all candidates!

COMPILED BY: LUANNE LINARES



# Ten ways NOT to get laid

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

We've all been there: the person you met earlier and was totally into going home with, is turning out to be different than you thought...very different. Different to the point where you would rather gag than sleep with them.

If you've accidentally made the mistake of hitting on the wrong person and it's too late to change your mind, or if you just want to avoid sex at any cost, these are ten ways not to get laid. Really, they do work.

Do everything you can to smell awful. Stop showering, stop washing your hands, stop brushing your hair, stop brushing your teeth, stop using deodorant, and exercise twice a day. Eat garlic. Lots and lots of garlic. Throw in some onions too.

Roll around in garbage if you have to...You won't have any problems keeping your bed to yourself.

Decide you actually want to play a board game

before you two fool around, insist that it won't take long and get out Monopoly, Risk, or The Settlers of Catan.

Set yourself up comfortably on the floor and take forever to choose your game piece. Fight for the top hat if you're playing Monopoly

Bring up marriage, repeat. Bring up children too, if they like the idea of marriage. Lots of children - like five or more - and suggest that tonight be the night you possibly work on baby number one.

Tell them you can do the gallon challenge, and insist on proving yourself when they don't believe you. Start drinking milk in front of them, and if you don't have milk in your fridge, you have a good excuse to go get some now.

Drink a pitiful amount and then pretend you're feeling sick already. Complain about your terrible stomachache but claim that you can still finish the challenge. Keep trying.

Watch them walk away.

Talk about your exes obsessively. Talk about how attractive you think they are, how weird it is to see them on campus all the time, and casually bring them up any place possible, including the bedroom.

Even when the subject turns, bring it back to your exes with a funny story about seeing them the other day and how much you miss them and want them back.

Right before you two start doing it, give your partner a wet willy. Keep doing it and pretend like you actually think it's funny. Laugh and ask for one in return if you really want to freak your partner out.

Throw up in your wastebasket right in front of your partner (try the gallon challenge if you need a reason to be sick).

Start to apologize and then throw up again in the middle of the sentence.

Make it as disgusting as possible.

Bring your partner into the room when your roommate is there, proceed as normal and pretend like it's not a big deal. When they ask about it, just say "Oh, they won't say anything. Don't worry. In fact, they kind of like it."

Insist that your pets watch. Including your big tank of fish.

Ask your partner if they have any STDs and when they say no, ask if they want any. List all the choices that you can offer.

Of course, you can always just say "No." But who wants to resort to that when there are so many other options?

With a little practice, you too can stretch out in your bed every night without having to make someone else room.

When the weekend comes around, and you're stuck in an unfortunate situation, remember these ten ways to not get laid...and they walk out on you, glory in your well earned rejection.



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TYPE OF ACCENT?



"Russian."  
-- Brooke Cutler, '12



"Australian. I'm an Aussie guy."  
-Jake Kreeger, '11



"Australian would be my favorite."  
-Kelly Birrier, '12



"Staten Island."  
- Philip Weisgold, '12



"Cockney. A type of British accent."  
- Rose Hamershock, '11

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## AMC Weekend Listings



### My Best Friend's Girl

Fri. 4:10, 7:40, 10:10  
Sat. 4:10, 7:40, 10:10  
Sun. 4:10, 7:40, 10:10

### Tyler Perry's The Family that Preys

Fri. 4:20, 7:10, 9:50  
Sat. 4:20, 7:10, 9:50  
Sun. 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

### Igor

Fri. 4:40, 7:00, 9:30  
Sat. 4:40, 7:00, 9:30  
Sun. 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

### Righteous Kill

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30

### The Women

Fri. 5:00, 7:50, 10:20  
Sat. 5:00, 7:50, 10:20  
Sun. 5:00, 7:50, 10:20

### Disaster Movie

Fri. 4:50, 7:20, 9:40  
Sat. 4:50, 7:20, 9:40  
Sun. 4:50, 7:20, 9:40

### Burn After Reading

Fri. 4:30, 7:30, 10:00  
Sat. 4:30, 7:30, 10:00  
Sun. 4:30, 7:30, 10:00

### The Dark Knight

Fri. 5:10, 8:30  
Sat. 5:10, 8:30

## Performance artist Gómez-Peña "Multiple Journeys"

By Victoria Davis  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

As part of the Center for Ethics, performance artist Guillermo Gómez-Peña shared his life's work in his presentation titled "Multiple Journeys: The Life and Work of Gómez-Peña." He wasted no time in diving in, opening with awkward, yet hysterical, family photos. He set the audience up nicely for the scandalous art to come by putting a photograph entitled "My First Nude" on the big screen right off the bat.

Gómez-Peña moved from Mexico City to Los Angeles in search of "artistic fresh air." He, along with other performance artists, searched for new ways of expression, which was especially difficult in a world of post-9/11 censorship.

Gómez-Peña's work explores not only the Center for Ethics theme (Politics, Ethics, and Citizenship), but also the issues of identity. His art often crosses gender, ethnic, and age boundaries.

In particular, Gómez-Peña's "border art" stand outs. In his piece called "border wedding," a bride and groom stand on opposite sides of a fence representing

the Mexican/U.S. border. His border art is for American citizens and Mexican citizens, as he actually performs on the border.

Gómez-Peña challenges artistic and political boundaries. His crucifixion received national attention, and his political messages speak for themselves. His art is shocking and at times very intense, but definitely makes a statement.

Oftentimes, his art is for the public to simply observe. When he posed as a homeless man, for example, the audience (unfortunately) stood distant and seemingly uninterested.

Other artwork, though, emphasized audience participation. In a sort of "radical democracy," the audience is sometimes allowed to do whatever they want. They can move the artists, do their hair, draw on them, basically do whatever they are moved to do. And so, Gómez-Peña blurs the line between audience and artist.

Gómez-Peña walked us through his life, so to speak. His thorough and captivating presentation guided the audience on a step-by-step journey through his amazing history as a performance artist.

*"His art is shocking and at times very intense, but definitely makes a statement."*



# Fall Break

**All college owned and leased houses, apartments, and residence halls are closing on October 8th at 6:00 p.m. and will reopen on October 12th at 10:00 a.m. (There will be no access before 10:00 a.m.)**

**The only students permitted to stay on campus are:**

- ◆ Academic responsibility (i.e.: student teaching)
- ◆ International Students
- ◆ Students living more than 300 miles from campus
- ◆ Athletes with **written** permission from the Athletic Department

If you do not fall into these categories and you are approved to stay, there is a \$25.00 per day charge. A "Request To Stay Over Break Form" must be submitted by every student who stays including those students falling into the above categories. Forms are available online at: [www.muhs.edu/housing](http://www.muhs.edu/housing) and are due by Monday, September 29th. Late requests will be subject to a \$25.00 fine. If you have any questions please call our office at x3180.

*Please make your travel plans accordingly.*



## Righteous Kill not a thrill

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

Enduring a contrived and convoluted crime drama would be worthwhile if it featured powerhouse performances from the two best screen actors of their generation.

Such is not the case in *Righteous Kill*, which wastes the talents of Robert De Niro and Al Pacino, while squandering the time and goodwill of the audience.

The stars play Turk and Rooster, New York police detectives nearing the end of their thirty-year partnership.

Rather than coast into retirement, they elect to tackle one last big case. A vigilante has been killing criminals who escaped the legal system, leaving poems mocking the victims as a calling card.

One of the pair is in it to catch the murderer,

the other to impede the investigation so that the "righteous kills" can continue. The film implicates one of the cops immediately through a videotaped confession, then leads viewers through a labyrinth of red herrings and misdirection to put his admission of guilt in doubt.

De Niro and Pacino had no scenes together in *The Godfather, Part II* and minimal screen time together in *Heat*. Here, they're practically inseparable, but seriously off their game.

Not that the inferior screenplay by Russell Gewirtz (*Inside Man*) gives them much to work with.

Their dialogue is generic cop talk and boilerplate banter. De Niro plays a raging bull at the end of his days and Pacino is his wry sidekick, but their personalities are underdeveloped, the better to keep us guessing.

A kinky crime scene specialist (Carla Gugino) provides a whiff of sex appeal and thickens the

plot as another potential suspect, while a rival detective team (John Leguizamo and Donnie Wahlberg) pursues leads to a killing in their precinct and adds a mild degree of suspense. Curtis (50 Cent) Jackson drifts through the piece as a drug lord who makes his own street-level sales, which is one of the script's lesser implausibilities.

Director Jon Avnet (the culprit behind Pacino's abysmal *88 Minutes*) stumbles through the story, never building the momentum an engaging cop yarn requires.

In its place, he tries to goose up the wearisome tale by dropping in another killing every few minutes, or giving Gugino and De Niro a few timidly filmed sex scenes.

By the time the glacially paced film delivers its final forehead-slapping switcheroo, you might feel like you've qualified for your own retirement dinner.



# Gossip Guru

## All the news from Hollywood

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Kicking off the news this week is none other than tabloid target Britney Spears (big surprise). Spears' mothering habits actually gained some positive attention when she threw a car-themed party for sons Preston and Jayden, whose birthdays were last week.

Preston and Jayden, who turned 3 and 2 respectively, celebrated with other famous tikes, including new cousin Maddie Briann, daughter of Aunt Jamie Lynn. Other celeb youngsters at the party included Kingston Rossdale (son of Gavin Rossdale and Gwen Stefani) and Evan, Jenny McCarthy's son. The birthday boys each received personalized toy trucks that they drove around during the party, and even got a yellow truck-shaped cake.

In other kid news, Ugly Betty actress Minnie Driver gave birth to son Henry Story on Fri., Sept. 12. Although her pregnancy was highly publicized in the tabloids, the single Driver still has not admitted the identity of the baby's father.

While Minnie Driver basks in her baby joy, Eva Longoria Parker continues to claim that all pregnancy rumors are false. The actress has been saying for several weeks that she is "just fat," and that she gained the weight for her *Desperate Housewives* role.

Costar Felicity Huffman backs up Longoria Parker by commenting to the press earlier this week "she's just fat, that's all there is to it!"

Singer/actress Jennifer Hudson got engaged this week to David Otunga. Otunga, better known as "Punk" from the

reality show *I Love New York 2*, and Hudson have been dating for less than a year.

Jennifer Lopez participated in a triathlon in Malibu this week. The actress, who finished the race in just under two and a half hours, was cheered on by husband Marc Anthony and her trainer. Lopez's participation in the event raised money for the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles.

Avid exerciser Matthew McConaughey also competed in the triathlon, finishing with a time of 1 hour and 43 minutes. Directly after participating in this exhausting event, Lopez and Anthony jetted to New York City to celebrate his birthday with a celebration she had planned.

In some depressing news, Pink Floyd co-founder and keyboardist Richard Wright died this week at the age of sixty-five. Wright wrote the well-known Pink Floyd hits "The Great Gig in the Sky" and "Dark Side of the Moon." He had been battling cancer for several years.

Quite a few A-listers made it into the 2009 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records. Among the record-breakers were "Most Powerful Couple" Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, who each individually received the "Most Powerful Actor" and "Most Powerful Actress" record. Britney Spears was the "Most Searched Person on the Internet" of 2009, while Oprah received the title of "Highest Annual Earnings by a TV Talk Show Host."

Rounding off the list was teen queen Miley Cyrus, who received the record for "Highest Grossing Movie of a Music Tour" for her Hannah Montana/ Miley Cyrus Best of Both Worlds Concert Tour."

REEVES | FROM PAGE 9

Clocking in at less than two minutes, this experimental track has him reciting his most poetically vivid and well-written lyrics to powerful piano chords that simultaneously crescendo with his voice.

The song builds until it nearly explodes, and then slowly dwindles down until there is no music left and Reeves is left with practically nothing but a whisper.

Just how the album began with the radio-friendly "Someone Somewhere," it concludes with "The End," a song that can very easily be Reeves' ticket to stardom.

A beautiful ballad in every possible way, the song ties the entire record together making both of the album's bookends stellar pieces.

In it, Reeves successfully pushes himself vocally in ways that he did not do in the previous tracks, which usually consisted of just him, a guitar, drums, and faint hints of piano.

In this entirely piano-driven ballad, on the other hand, his hopeful lyrics take him to a brand new level of falsetto with a big band feel. However, he still manages to incorporate the raw sounds of the record as a whole.

He is able to demonstrate his abilities as a multi-talented musician by applying compound layers to the song, leaving you wanting to go back and listen to the build-up of this incredible track all over again.

Jason Reeves has managed to create a debut album that not only shines from his intelligent and honest lyrics, but an album that almost anyone can relate to in one way or another.

His musical versatility is apparent in the different style of so many of the tracks, yet he manages to keep his own unique trademark sound intact and present throughout.

Reeves may not be a household name, but he's definitely a mark on the musical map that's not going to fade away anytime soon.



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# After a redeeming win, the Mules shift their focus to the Centennial Conference

By Daniel Wayne  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Following Wednesday evening's disappointing loss to Wilkes University, the Men's Soccer team (3-2) came out strong this weekend against area rival Moravian College (1-4) and came away with a 2-1 win.

After allowing the game's initial score midway through the first half, the Mules' defense regrouped and shut down Moravian the rest of the way. The defense, without injured co-captain senior Greg Leischner, relied heavily on co-captain junior Sammy Hayden and sophomore Matt Cecconi.

Head coach Sean Topping has been impressed with Cecconi's play. "He has been doing great," said Topping. "We like our backs to move up and down the flank and Matt has done a great job with that."

This staunch protection allowed the Berg's forwards and midfielders to unleash an astounding twenty-one shots on goal. Senior forward Brendan Carroll capitalized first for the Mules, heading senior Billy Dalton's corner kick past the Greyhounds' goalie.

Although this header was Dalton's

only point of the game, he had numerous shots on goal, including a first half free kick that ricocheted off of the crossbar. "Dalton in the middle has been a workhorse for us," Topping added. "He is all over the field."

With the score tied 1-1, the first half ended, but it would not be long until the Mules struck again. Only nine minutes into the second half, freshman Cody Antonini fired a shot low and away, just out of the reach of Moravian's goalkeeper. This goal was not only a winner, but was also the first of Antonini's collegiate career.

"This is a big win, especially against a cross town rival," said coach Topping. "You always want to go into conference play on a winning note," and this win "gets the boys on the right track."

The Mules open Centennial Conference play this weekend against the Franklin & Marshall Diplomats (2-2). Berg's stellar defensive play will be up against the Dips' leading scorer Rodrigo Nogales, who already has four points on the season. The game will be played on Saturday, September 20th at Varsity Field at 7:00 p.m.



## Sports Schedule

### Field Hockey

Sat., Sept. 20 vs. Washington, 1:00

### Women's Soccer

Sat., Sept. 20 @ McDaniel, 4:00

Tue., Sept. 23 @ Misericordia, 7:00

### Volleyball

Sat., Sept. 20 @ McDaniel, 12:00

### Football

Sat., Sept. 20 @ Union, 1:00

### Men's Soccer

Sat., Sept. 20 vs. Franklin & Marshall, 2:00



Forward sophomore Evan Rubin (top) shakes a Moravian defender in Saturday's win; (bottom) The Mules celebrate a goal against Moravian.

PHOTO BY ALAN BASS



# USC dominates Ohio State; LSU and Auburn get ready for their brawl this weekend

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The game of the week, maybe even the game of the year, was a blowout win for the #1 team in the nation, USC. The Trojans trailed 3-0 to Ohio State midway through the first quarter, but that was all the Buckeyes could muster as USC won 35-3. The question throughout the week was the health of OSU running back Chris "Beanie" Wells, and the news finally came on Friday that Wells would not play, and so the Buckeyes had no shot of a victory in Coliseum. Quarterback Mark Sanchez threw 4 touchdowns and running back Joe McKnight ran for 105 yards on just 12 carries as this game proved that the Trojans are the top dog in the country. One bright spot for the Buckeyes was the play of highly touted freshman quarterback Terrelle Pryor. In limited action, Pryor was 7 of 9 for 52 yards passing and rushed for 40 yards on 11 carries.

Looking down USC's schedule, their next test will come on Oct. 4 against #17 Oregon, who needed to overcome a 17-point deficit to beat Purdue this weekend. After Oregon, the Trojans do not face another ranked opponent for the duration of the season. As an avid Notre Dame fan, I would like to say that Nov. 29 will be a test for the Trojans, but USC has too much talent for the Irish to stay close in that game.

Speaking of the Irish, Notre Dame improved to 2-0 with a win over Michigan this weekend, 35-17. This was an ugly game that the Wolverines essentially handed to Notre Dame on a silver platter. Michigan had 6 turnovers in this game which lead to 28 of Irish's points. You know what? I don't care. Last season, the Irish started 0-5 and didn't win their second

game until Nov. 17 and it was against *Duke*. The Irish aren't in the top 25 for a reason right now but as a Notre Dame fan, I'll gladly take this start to the season.

This weekend has no "Collision in the Coliseum," but there are some very intriguing games that begin on Thursday night. #21 West Virginia still has the sour taste of the East Carolina loss in their mouth and now they have to travel almost 1,500 miles to Boulder, CO to take on the Buffaloes. The Buffaloes are not great but they are 2-0 and have one of the best freshmen in the country in Darrell Scott at running back. If the Mountaineers do not come ready to play this could be a very ugly start to the season for the West Virginia faithful (Thursday at 8:30 on ESPN). A couple other games on Saturday to watch are #15 East Carolina at North Carolina State; people want to see if the Pirates are still the real deal. Tim Tebow and the #4 Florida Gators head to Knoxville, TN to take on the Volunteers, who are still very bitter about their loss to UCLA (3:30 on CBS). The game of the week without a doubt is #6 LSU at #10 Auburn. These two teams have nothing but hatred for each other. LSU is 2-0 but is yet to be tested and Auburn is 3-0 but barely held on to a 3-2 win over Mississippi State (yes that is right...3-2 was the final score). This game will be the first one of the many great SEC battles that we will see this upcoming season (7:45 on ESPN).

One final note for anyone who doesn't believe the SEC is the best conference in the nation, by far. In the current Associated Press poll, there are 5 SEC programs in the Top 10 (#3 Georgia, #4 Florida, #6 LSU, #9 Alabama, #10 Auburn).

## Women's Volleyball sweeps DeSales for a home win

By Kim O'Brian  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

It was a week of close matches for the Muhlenberg Women's Volleyball Team. The Mules kept the home crowd on the edge of their seats last Wed., edging out DeSales in three close sets and sweeping the Bulldogs for the first time since 2000.

The Mules were down 18-10 in the first set, but managed to close DeSales' lead to just 24-20. Freshman Davi Gordon served up the final six points of the set, and a combined block by senior Megan Eiser and freshman Jackie Price closed the match at 26-24.

The lady Mules lead for most of the second set, closing with a 25-20 win. In the third and final set, DeSales threatened to push the game to a fourth set with a 22-17 lead. But the Mules rallied back to win 25-23.

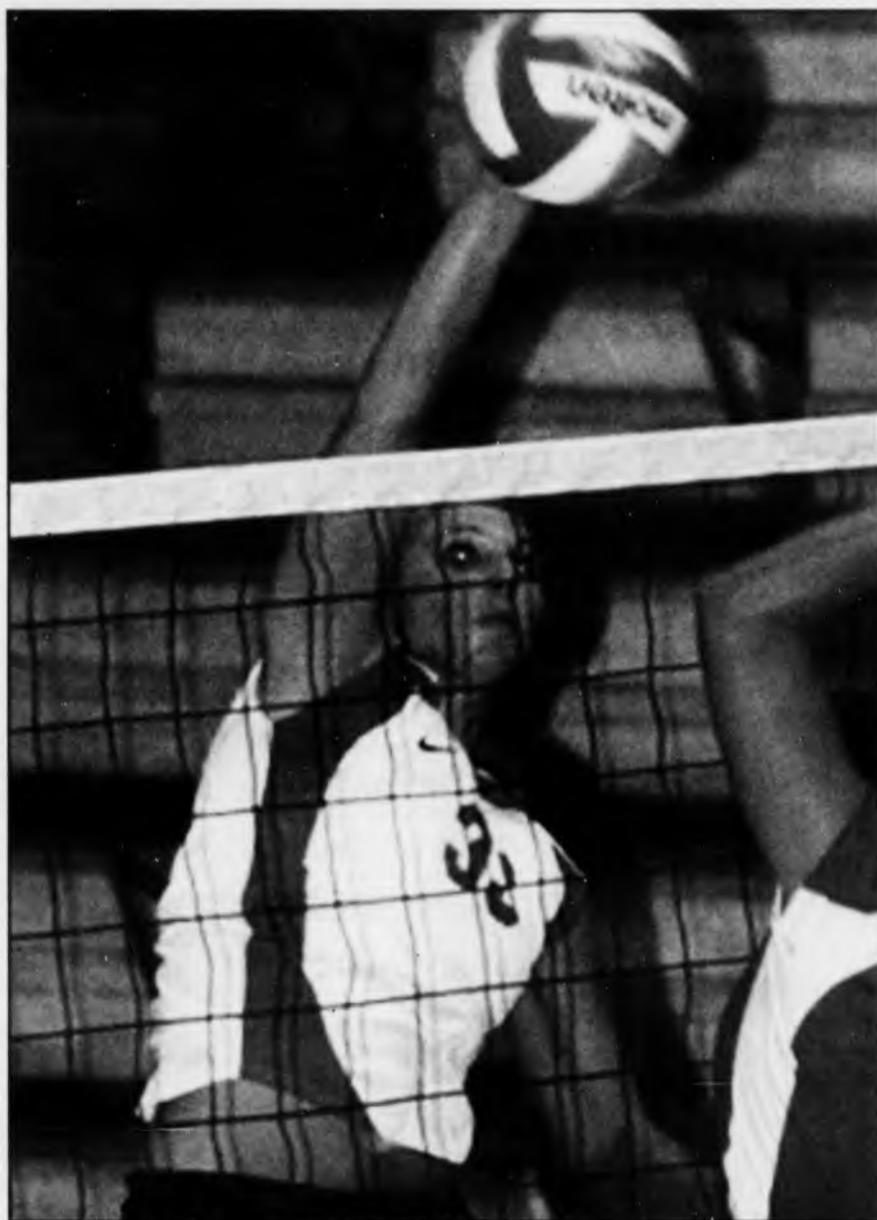
Wed.'s match saw a tremendous effort from back row defenders Christina Cangelosi and Danielle Losonci. Junior Cangelosi had 23

digs, and senior Losonci had a career-high 17 digs. Junior Phylcia Lee led the team with 12 kills, and the freshman pair of Price and Gordon contributed eight kills each. Gordon led the team with 5 blocks, and junior Brittany Williams contributed four.

In other news, the volleyball team went 2-2 and tied for third place at last weekend's Scranton Invitational, Sept. 12-13. The Mules defeated Wilkes in three of four close sets (25-17, 22-25, 25-22, 25-21). Williams and Price led the team with 10 kills apiece. The Mules were able to clinch one set win (25-21) against Oneonta State, but lost to the team in the next three sets (20-25, 21-25, 20-25). Lee led the Mules' offense with 13 kills.

The Mules split again on day two of the Invitational, defeating Wilkes for the second time after starting the day with a tough loss to FDU-Florham.

Cangelosi posted 22 digs in the second-day Wilkes match. She was named to the All Tournament Team, totaling 55 digs in the tournament.



Junior Brittany Williams goes for the kill.

# With Brady out, are the Patriots doomed?

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

In light of Tom Brady's devastating knee injury, there is now a question going around: Is a top-flight goalie more important to a hockey team's ongoing success than a quarterback to a football squad?

In order to answer this question, I feel that we must look back at recent history, both in hockey and in football.

**1990-1991 NFL Season:** The New York Giants looked to be on a hot run to the playoffs, until starting quarterback Phil Simms broke his foot on Dec. 15, 1990, setting off a raging debate on whether or not the Giants' season was over. In comes backup quarterback Jeff Hostetler. Hostetler leads the Giants to Super Bowl XXV, defeating the Buffalo Bills to win their second ever Super Bowl Championship. The New York Giants win the Super Bowl with a backup quarterback.

**2001-2002 NFL Season:** In an example that we all can remember, because anyone writing on Bleacher Report is old enough to remember this brilliant season where we discovered one of the best quarterbacks of all-time (in my humble opinion).

The New England Patriots were an okay team, looking to squeeze into the postseason, and perhaps capture their first Super Bowl Championship. Starting quarterback Drew Bledsoe injures himself in the first week, and now comes in this pathetic, former 199th overall draft pick. Some crappy kid named Tom Brady.

The Patriots are doomed, right? They go on to a 9-7 season and win their first of three Super Bowls, and Tom Brady is finally discovered as an NFL superstar.

Now we look at the NHL. Based on modern history (modern history in my mind is any time after 1970), there is NO team that won the Stanley Cup by riding their backup goalie for the entire season and the playoffs. Note: I am not counting the 2008 Detroit Red Wings, because even though Chris Osgood was a backup, he is still a great goalie.

There were teams that won the Stanley Cup with unproven goalies (at the time), such as the Carolina Hurricanes with Cam Ward in 2006, or the Tampa Bay Lightning in 2004 (Nikolai Khabibulin was not very known at that time, yet). However, these goalies came up big when they needed to.

An NFL team does not get to the Super Bowl because its quarterback gets hot. The New York Giants of 2007-2008 did not get to the Super Bowl because Eli Manning had a hot streak. He indeed did very well, but it was the entire team that helped the Giants move on to defeat the mighty Patriots in the Championship game.

However, an NHL team can indeed succeed because of a goalie on a hot streak. The Anaheim (Mighty) Ducks of 2003 got to the finals because of

J.S. Giguere's hot streak. They did have a pretty good team, but it is hard to argue with the fact that without Giguere, the Ducks would not have gotten that far. Helping to support my point is his Conn Smythe Trophy.

The Edmonton Oilers in 2006 surprised the heck out of the entire hockey world and got to the finals. Why? Well, they had phenomenal goaltending by Dwayne Roloson. Unfortunately, he got injured in the finals, and Ty Conklin was unable to back up the team to victory. Therefore, they ultimately lost in seven games to the Hurricanes.

The 2008 Philadelphia Flyers were only supposed to barely make the playoffs, and exit in the first round. However, they wound up making it to the Conference Finals and coming within three games of the Stanley Cup Finals.

Why is it? Because goaltender Martin Biron played like Bernie Parent did in the 1970s. Biron stood on his head, making saves he had no business making. Because of his stellar play in the net, the Flyers were able to succeed in the postseason, more so than anyone ever expected them to.

In football, you can have a bad quarterback and a great team. If you have a quarterback as unproven as David Carr was with the Houston Texans, you can still have a great team if you surround him with Chad Johnson, Terrell Owens, Randy Moss, Marvin Harrison, and Dion Branch, give him a running back of Ladanian Tomlinson's status, and perhaps an Alge Crumpler at tight end. Throw in a pro bowl offensive line, and you will easily crush the other team's defense. Even with David Carr as your quarterback.

However, even if you have a team like the Red Wings had this year, with Nicklas Lidstrom, Brian Rafalski, along with an offensive line of Henrik Zetterberg, Pavel Datsyuk, and Johan Franzen, you indeed have a better chance of winning a game or two or fifty.

However, if your goalie is Corey Schwab, who will not get anywhere near a .900 save percentage, you will still lose the majority of your games. A goalie can make or break a team.

You see the New Jersey Devils of a few years ago. They were not nearly as talented as they were before the lockout when they won their three Stanley Cups. However, with legendary Martin Brodeur in net, he was able to win 8-10 games simply because of his amazing acrobatics in net and his unbelievable ability to stop the puck.

A save percentage difference of .950 and .850 will be the difference of perhaps 40-50 games in the standings in the NHL.

A completion difference of 70 percent and 60 percent in the NFL will result in maybe one or two games. Maybe.

An NHL goaltender is much more vital to the success of his team than an NFL quarterback is to his.

## Huge sports fan?

## Write for Sports!

Contact Matthew at

[mg235866@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:mg235866@muhlenberg.edu)



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Volleyball earns first sweep  
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## Women's Soccer undefeated at 5-0

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Lady Mules set a record last week by opening their soccer season with four straight wins.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, they set another one this week, with a win over Neumann. They obliterated Neumann 7-0, and continued their undefeated season. The Lady Mules are now 5-0.

"I think what really helped us against Neumann was the intensity that we brought to the very start of the game," freshman Nicolette Miller said. "We came out hard and high pressured them right away which created a lot of opportunities in front of the goal. Then we just started putting them away."

The scoring started almost immediately, in the 17th minute, as junior Kimberly Hacker scored off of a great feed from Miller. They went right back out and doubled their lead four minutes later as Jennifer Lynch, a junior from Greenville, DE, scored on a shot from the left side of the box to the top right corner of the goal.

Just six minutes after making the lead 2-0, freshman Renee Dessimone scored on a shot to the center of the net, increasing 'Berg's lead to three. Five minutes later, Muhlenberg scored again on a shot from the right side, and went in to halftime leading Neumann 4-0. 'Berg also hit two posts in the final few minutes of the first half, two chances that could have put Muhlenberg close to double digits in this game.

"I think our success comes from how well we all play together," Miller continued. "We focus a lot on communication and the fact that the whole team must be working as a complete unit in order to win. Everyone on the field has a responsibility and when everyone does their

part we are successful."

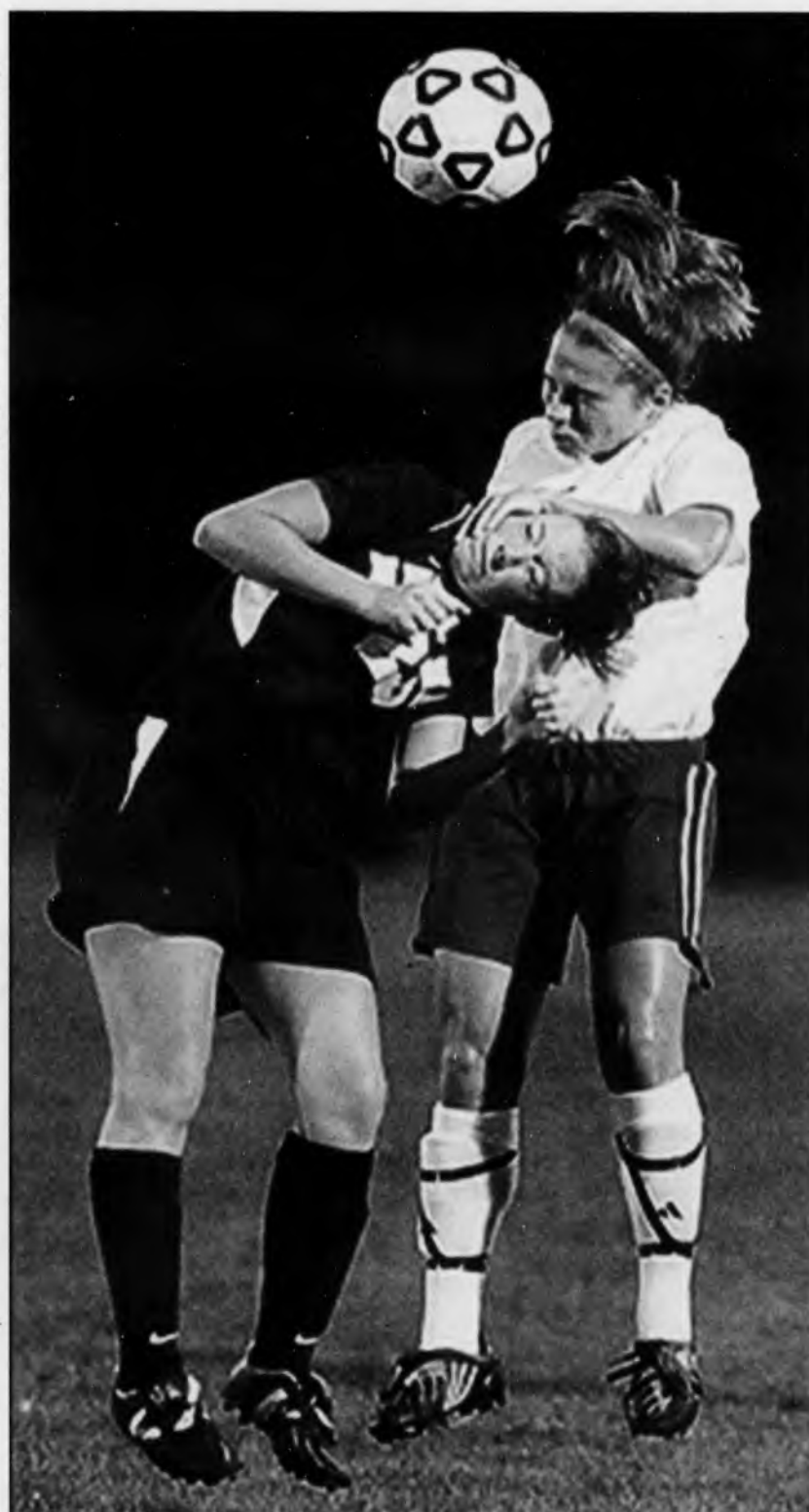
In the second half, Muhlenberg scored three more goals to complete their total domination of Neumann College. They dominated for the entire game, only giving up one shot to the Neumann women.

The Muhlenberg women, however, were able to put 22 shots on Neumann goalkeeper Vicky Segal, yet Segal was only able to stop 15 shots for a dismal .681 save percentage.

Dessimone scored two goals, while Miller had a goal and two assists to her name. Others who scored include sophomore Lauren Petri, the aforementioned Hacker and Lynch, and freshman Meghan O'Grady.

"I definitely think that everyone on the team pushing each other to work hard and play together is helping us achieve so much," Miller concluded. "We are a really close group and together we all have the same goals. So we are constantly pushing each other to achieve them."

The Lady Mules are still undefeated and will take on Franklin & Marshall next Saturday night at Varsity Field.



(left) Renee Dessimone; (top) The Mules dominated Scranton as they outshot the Knights, 40-2.

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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2008

# Renowned sociologist speaks about media and politics

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

On Wed., Sept. 22, the College continued its quest with the Center for Ethics to enlighten students about issues in the upcoming election with the visit and lecture of Dr. William Gamson. His public lecture, co-sponsored by the Lectures and Forums program and the Department of Media and Communication, was titled "Elections as a Media Framing Contest" and was followed by a question and answer session and reception during which students could learn more about this learned professor's take on the election and its media coverage.

A professor of sociology at Boston College for the past forty six years, Dr. Gamson is the co-director of the Media Research and Action Project (MRAP) and has published numerous books, including *The Strategy of Social Protest* and, his most recent, *Talking Politics*. Media and Communications assistant professor Dr. John Sullivan, in his introduction to Gamson's lecture, remarked on the straightforward approach to politics in Gamson's most recent publication, saying that he was struck by the professor's disregard for conventional data collections and his preferred effective approach of sitting down with people and simply saying, "Let's talk politics."

Through his activity in MRAP, Gamson worked on the development of a simulation game about Global Justice, which is available online as "a training tool for activists and students." He is also a former president of the

American Sociological Association and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Despite his strong list of credentials, Gamson modestly approached the podium in Miller Forum to deliver a lecture with a fresh perspective and presentation on politics and the media. He began by introducing the concept of a "frame" and its two types: discourse in the media as a contest of what information would become prominent in a frame, and journalists as actors who independently influence the ways in which information is framed through visuals and other emphasis. With this background, Gamson acknowledged that elections themselves can be seen as a framing contest, also through two ways.

First, there is the focus on the content of the election, when people ask the question of what is at stake and what the election is truly about. Then, the currently ever-present identity politics factor in with the contest of "we" versus "they." People must decide if the candidate is "one of us" or "one of them." According to Gamson, this focus leads to steady discourse about social class, although it is frequently disguised behind talk of race or other, more openly controversial issues.

Within these frames Gamson succeeded in explaining his take on the individual frames of both Republicans and Democrats. With a humorous twist, Gamson delved into an explanation on how the Republicans see the world as a dangerous place filled with evil people who want to bring us harm, and that we therefore need a

"tested warrior" to protect us. "And who better to run with a tested warrior," continued Gamson, "than a woman warrior. A pit-bull, with lipstick."

While the Republicans wouldn't think of risking placing an 'unknown' person as our leader, the Democrats accept the need for change. Their frame, as Gamson put it, is that "we need a change of direction and a new mindset." The Democratic party is looking to elect a leader who will empower citizens to make a better world, and view this as an improvement on the "same old, same old" Republicans.

There is also a third frame, Gamson added, of non-official components within the election that consists of third party candidates, social movements, and journalists and their personal influences on the election's media portrayal. But the contest is not effected by this frame, as it reflects our country's modern obsession with identity politics. The big question is that of experience and the candidates' backgrounds. There is so much media hype surrounding this question and it is so highly contested, however, that Gamson believes that in the end, these arguments will become neutralized and the election will come down to more important issues, such as the economy.

Within these frames, there are traps that the parties set to attempt to ensnare their opponents. One that Gamson elaborated on was of the Republican Party that Gamson called "the Palin

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## New writing center: more convenient for students and staff

By Jana Elbenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

On Sept 18 the ribbon was cut, signifying the opening of the brand new Writing and Information Consulate Center.

Located on Level A in Trexler Library, the new Writing and Information Consulate Center is open to all students who need help

at any stage while they are composing a paper.

No matter what class the paper is for, the writing center tutors are eager to help you through the process. One on one sessions usually last around thirty minutes and there is no requirement to make an appointment.

Also, faculty and staff members are welcome to stop by with ques-

tions as well as members of the Allentown community.

Walk in sessions are very common and successful for students as well. Open on Wed. from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Thurs 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. as well as 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The writing center is a popular place for tutors to check over papers and fix grammar errors while adding their opinion on how to

build the paper as a whole.

A major factor in the creation of the new Writing and Information Consulate Center was that many people within the library, as well as in charge of the previous writing center, did not feel that the location of the old writing center was ideal.

It was not a good location for

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

## Start Talking

It always seems to happen somewhere else. We can feel sorry, empathetic and solemn, but every time a school shooting takes place, it never quite hits home because it didn't happen right in front of our faces.

But take it from us, it can come pretty darn close. One of us is from Littleton, CO, home of Columbine. Virginia Tech hit close to the College, but again, no cigar. And farthest away of all is the most recent school shooting in Finland, where a student shot and killed 10 people before taking his own life.

What if it did happen here? We can run all the drills and tests we want, write up plenty of procedures to follow "in case of emergency," but when it really comes down to it, we should probably embrace the cliché, "expect the unexpected."

We feel safe here at the College, as we should. We receive emails, slips in our mailboxes, and text messages assuring us that the security is up to date. But, as those who survived Columbine and Virginia Tech know, sometimes that is not enough.

The police were aware that the Finnish shooter was potentially dangerous, but did not act. Same with Virginia Tech and Columbine - people instinctively knew something was disturbing about these individuals but nothing was said. Why? Fear of making a big deal out of nothing? Fear of attracting unwanted attention? Fear of being wrong? We believe people should act, if nothing else, out of fear of being right.

A text message is not going to stop someone who is already in the process of hurting other people. The alarms must be raised way before then. There have been too many attacks like this much too recently for no action to be taken. Everyone, students especially, must speak out.

We grieve for all those who have ever been affected by these heart wrenching attacks, but we think that next time, if there is a next time, this could be us. We panic about where we will be in ten years, but never stop to think what would happen if those futures were snatched away from us before we could realize them. Maybe we should. Maybe fear will finally be a motivator rather than a block. Maybe it's finally time to start talking.

## MerDer and the other Grey's couples: Hopes for the upcoming season

By Rebecca Sachs  
WEEKLY WRITER

Looking back at last season's premiere of Grey's Anatomy, in my opinion, the actors, storylines, and writing were all tired.

George and Izzie were grappling with their affair (gross), Meredith and Derek started having "breakup sex" (what is that?), and Christina was nursing her wounds after Burke's decision to leave (finally). I think the first three months of the series were overplayed, over-dramatic, and unoriginal. Maybe the writer's strike was just what the show needed, for the show came back fresh and rejuvenated and was at its best since the second season.

So, as I brace myself, try and contain my excitement, and prepare for the second annual Grey's Premiere Party, I can't help but contemplate what I think should happen. Shonda Rhimes, creator and writer of Grey's Anatomy, has stated that Meredith and Derek will be together, no more of the cat-and-mouse game that has been the primary storyline of the entire series thus far.

So what does that mean for primetime soap world's most envied and hated character and her much too perfect man? In the most recent promos, Derek is proposing, Rose is telling him she is pregnant with his child, and Meredith is screaming "NO" as he lies unconscious in a hospital bed in the ER.

Sounds to me that this is the type of drama we are in for this season, and maybe it'll be good for us devoted Grey's fanatics. I for one, am ready for good sex scenes between the couple known as MerDer (anybody remember the prom scene?). Alex and Izzie seem to be attending to their unfinished business, and George...is on the cusp of doing Lexi? And Callie is making out with Hahn? I don't know. It's clear most people don't watch Grey's for the intense and realistic surgeries (yes, because I have heard that a kid did in fact turn himself into a rock). People watch this primetime soap for what are the essentials of a soap opera: drama, love, and sex. I just certainly hope that's what we get this season.

*I think the first three months of the series were overplayed, over-dramatic, and unoriginal. Maybe the writer's strike was just what the show needed for the show came back fresh and rejuvenated.*

## Letter to the Editor:

### Promote bipartisan values on campus

One can only assume that Ms. Spirko is writing about the College Democrats when she says, "Unlike other political groups on campus, we [the College Republicans] will not spend this year attempting to brainwash students into accepting one set of political ideas."

As active members of the College Democrats, we take offense to this. How is it that we, the College Democrats, by providing the Muhlenberg students the opportunity to experience such speakers as former President of the United States, Bill Clinton, the Democratic Candidate for President, Barack Obama, and the Mayor of Allentown, Ed Pawlowski

are "brainwashing" the campus?

A bipartisan presence could have been beneficial to the community this past academic year. However, the College Republicans have failed to exist these past two years. Hence, rather than accusing indoctrination of liberal values on our part, I think the College Republicans should reconsider their absence, not our presence.

The College Democrats took the initiative last year in inviting both of the major Democratic candidates for President, as well as the Governor of Pennsylvania, the Mayor of our great city, and our Senator, and we were successful in bringing most of them to campus. The College Republicans, in contrast, remained inactive - not even inviting Senator

John McCain, the Republican nominee for President - in spite of an administrative suggestion.

In response to the main argument of the article, that conservatism should have a stronger presence at the College, I would like to remind readers that the College Democrats were presenting views of the Democratic Party, not promoting liberalism.

Our active participation between presidential election years is a testament to seeing past today's transitive political figures and their ideologies, but focusing on the essence of what it means to be Democratic. We have actively involved ourselves in voter registration on campus and strongly

encourage the student body to participate in local politics. Welcoming any participation into today and tomorrow's political dialogue at the College is something the College Democrats believe in. This year's re-entry of the College Republicans back onto the campus will be a well-awaited welcome: our country has not just one voice, but many, so a bipartisan presence at Muhlenberg is more than overdue.

**Jonathan Rosenau,**  
Co-President, Muhlenberg  
College Democrats

**Ariel Cohen,**  
Member, Muhlenberg College  
Democrats

*The College  
Republicans remained  
inactive - not even invit-  
ing Senator John  
McCain in spite of an  
administrative sugges-  
tion.*



# Candidates prepare for the first debate



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

The first Presidential debate between John McCain and Barack Obama is this Friday. At first glance, a Democrat should feel confident with their candidate who is noted for his oratory skills and ability to inspire people with his words.

On the other hand, a Republican

could be concerned because of their candidate's propensity to squint at the teleprompter and talk in a dull, monotonous tone. However, first glances could be deceiving.

Obama didn't perform particularly well in his debates throughout the primary season with Hilary Clinton. As a matter of fact, he has been fairly inconsistent with his debating skills throughout his political career. He has a tendency to give long-winded, rambling answers when a shorter one would do. Beyond that, he isn't overly aggressive and tends to be caught on the defensive from his opponent.

*At first glance, a Democrat should feel confident with their candidate who is noted for his oratory skills.*

McCain has a steady track record throughout his career. He is known not to hesitate going after his rival, and offers a surprising sense of humor, which audiences tend to enjoy.

This first debate is more important for Obama than for McCain, who is starting to open a

slight lead in most polls. People question whether or not Obama is ready to be commander-in-chief and can handle political issues on the national stage. He can make a statement by having a strong showing against a political veteran like McCain.

As viewers, we can only hope the moderators keep questions focused on issues that matter. These are difficult times for

*The first debate is more important for Obama than for McCain, who is starting to open a slight lead in most polls.*

America. We are facing an array of problems on both the domestic and international fronts. There is no time to worry about how many houses John McCain owns or whether or not Barack Obama wore a flag pin at a campaign event a few months ago.

I am sure we will hear plenty about McCain's military experience and Obama's desire to change "politics as usual" in Washington. Yet, it

remains to be seen whether one candidate can offer a strong attack on their opponent's policies, while offering practical solutions to solve our nation's problems. Scoring a decisive victory in the first debate can offer momentum as we head into the final stretch run of this election.

*There is no time to worry about how many houses John McCain owns or whether or not Barack Obama wore a flag pin at a campaign event.*

The first debate will air this Friday, September 26 at 9 PM on all major news networks including ABC, NBC, CBS and FOX. You can expect to hear the candidates discussing issues of foreign policy and national security. The first debate will be moderated by Jim Lehrer of PBS and will take place at the University of Mississippi. Voters will have the chance to ask questions via moderator Tom Brokaw at the second town-hall style debate in Nashville, Tennessee. The candidates will discuss domestic and economic policy at the final debate moderated by CBS' Bob Scheiffer at Hofstra University.

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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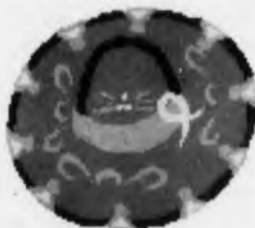
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*Come Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month  
in the Garden Room  
Every day at Dinner  
September 29th through October 3rd*



*Featuring Foods from:  
Cuba, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Peru,  
and the Dominican Republic  
and Guest Chef Cynthia Amaya*





# Pep band ready to kick off another season

By Mike Fau  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

The Muhlenberg College Pep Band has been entertaining athletes and spectators at various college sporting events since its establishment in the Fall of 2005. After being founded by Matt Fash '09, with the help of Jeff Levy '09, Mike Fau '09, and Justin LaPlante '09, the Pep Band has grown and thrived. During the fall season, the band focuses on recruiting new members, practicing, and performing at all home football games. In the past, the band has also traveled to away games at the request of the football team. In the winter, the band performs at home games for both the men's and women's basketball teams and the men's Ice Hockey team. In addition, the band is regularly called upon to support other sports teams and perform at non-athletic campus events.

They have high hopes for this year's season. The band has been rehearsing since the beginning of the school year and is ready to entertain the crowd with new tunes and old favorites. "The Pep Band has been working extremely hard this year and is sounding great. I really enjoy living in the Pep Band House and being able to support the organization," states Laura Sansosti '09. Christy Alvord '11 commented that "The band's repertoire is expanding, the energy at the practices is really high and everyone seems like they are having a fantastic time. They bring a lot of spirit back to the campus and add another fun dimension to all the sporting events." The Pep Band will be kicking off their '08-'09 season at this weekend's homecoming game. They hope to see you there!

# Senior Section

By Matt Fash & Laura Sansosti  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITERS

Dear Class of 2009,

For our senior year, we are keeping many of the same traditions, but are also trying to branch out to make our senior year unique and, most of all, a lot of fun. We have several events in the works thus far. Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events. We have Pub Nights scheduled for the following dates:

Thurs., Sept. 25th - Johnny Mananas

Thurs., Oct. 23rd - Mixx Bowling

Thurs., Nov. 20th - Allentown BrewWorks

All three of the Pub Nights will be from 10 p.m. to approximately 1:30am. Buses will depart from in front of the CA. Please make sure you bring \$3, your Berg ID, and driver's license. A flier advertising the pub nights in greater detail will be in your mailboxes.

Other events in the works include a night at Ozzy's Sports Fun Center on Friday October 3rd, and a Senior Chill in the Red Door. We are also proposing an idea to the administration that would incorporate a Senior Trip into our Senior Week.

Also, stay tuned for the Class of 2009 production, *Muhlenberg Idol*. The competition is set to air on Fri., Oct. 17 in the Great Room. Hope to see you there! Senior T-shirts have been ordered, we are waiting for their arrival!

We are always looking for new ideas, so if you have any suggestions, feel free to email your President, Matt Fash, at mf234019@muhlenberg.edu or any of your other class council members.

Write for OP/ED!  
Share your opinions!

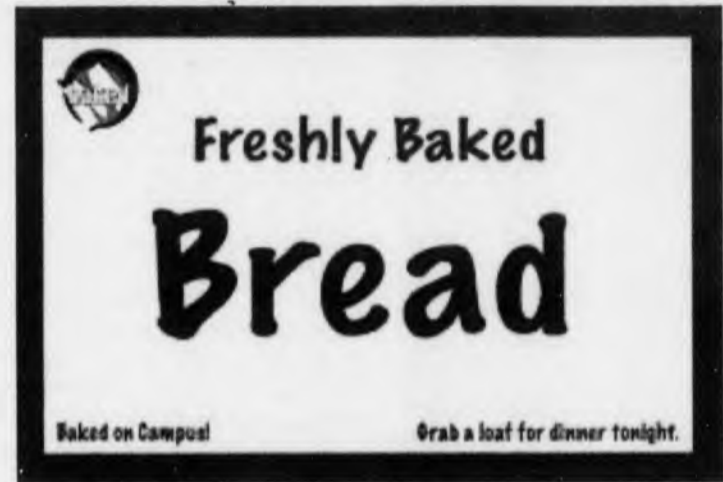
Contact:

sb234499@muhlenberg.edu

or

rm233883@muhlenberg.edu

## Look what's new at Java Joe's...



It's fresh, it's warm,  
and it's right here  
on campus!

## Sarah Palin: bad for the Jews

By Sara Beitman  
OP/ED EDITOR

Senator John McCain chose Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate and possible successor. During President Bush's

reign, Dick Cheney has had tremendous influence over the White House. It would be frightening if Palin took over for McCain, because Palin has no foreign policy experience, and would be terrible for America's Jews and Israel.

Sarah Palin, who is from the Christian right, is a big supporter of Pat Buchanan, who praised Adolf Hitler and blames Jews for turning Congress into an "Israeli occupied territory." Buchanan described Palin and her husband as "pitchfork brigades" for him. He said, "they were at a fundraiser for me. She is a terrific gal." When I did a search for "Palin" in the AIPAC (America's pro-Israel lobbyist group) database, it produced no matches. That is because Palin has no record on Israel, one of many countries she has never visited.

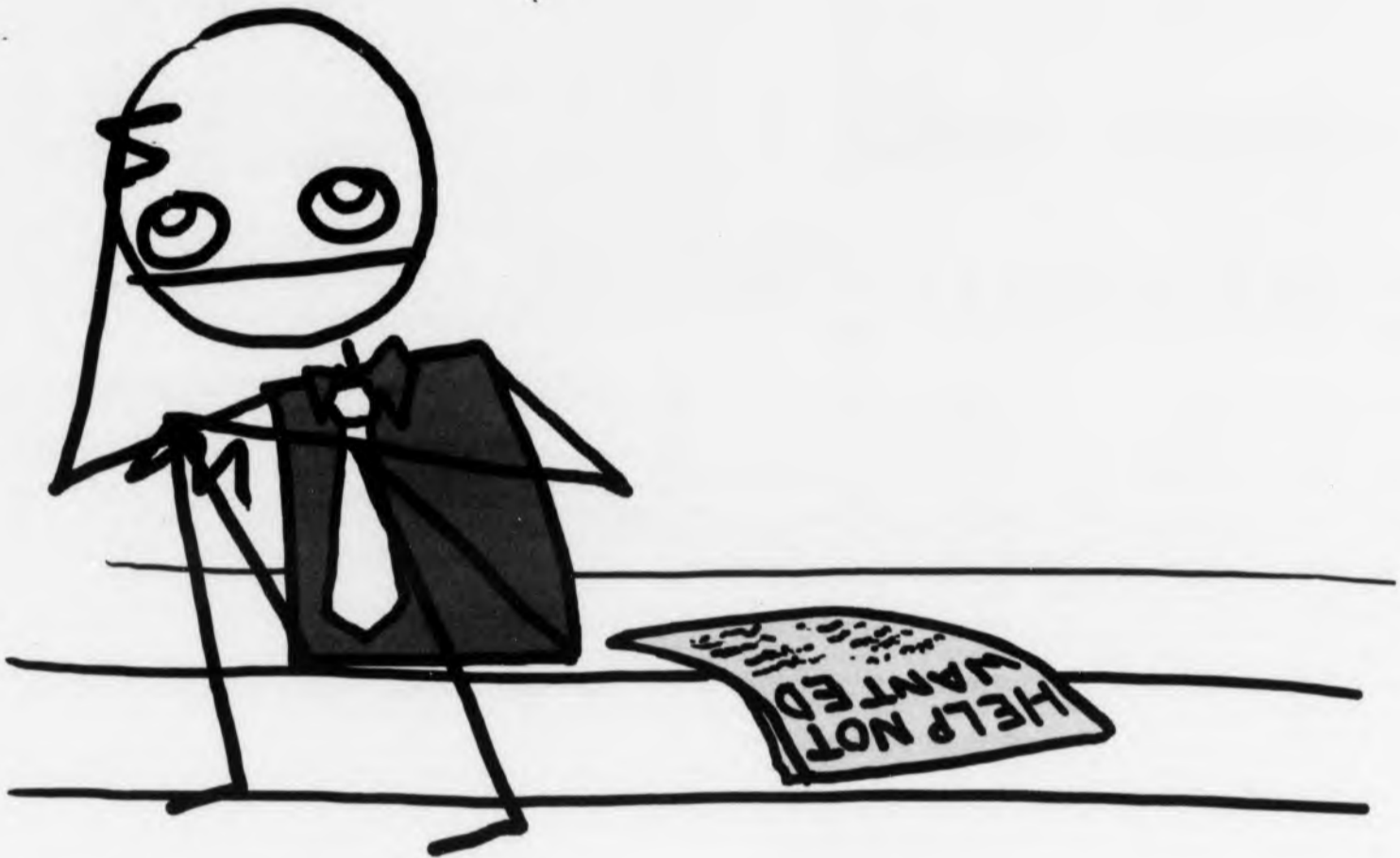
People who are concerned with American foreign policy, and particularly our nation's approach to the Middle East and Israel, the choice of Sarah Palin is very disturbing. In this time of instability in the Middle East, why would John McCain choose Sarah Palin, who has absolutely no background or support in this area?

On the other hand, Barack Obama could be very good for the Jews. One of Michelle Obama's first cousins once removed, is America's most prominent black rabbi. Rabbi Capers Funnye is the rabbi of an Ethiopian synagogue on Chicago's south side, Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken. One of Funnye's main projects is acting as a bridge between mainstream Judaism and the world of Ethiopian Jewish congregations. He often urges the larger Jewish community to be more accepting of black Jews.

So when casting your vote this November, consider not only who would be a good pick for America, but also think about voting for the candidate that would support our ally Israel.

*Consider not only who would be a good pick for America, but also vote for the candidate that supports our ally, Israel.*

I'M registering to VOTE because  
I want a job when I graduate.  
Emily C.



DON'T GET MAD. GET REGISTERED.  
**VOTEFORCHANGE.COM**  
REGISTER AT YOUR CAMPUS ADDRESS BY OCT 6TH.



PAID FOR BY OBAMA FOR AMERICA



# Hillel receives \$1 million gift for renovations

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

As publicized in the article "Plans to expand Hillel House" in the Sept. 11 issue, the Hillel House will be undergoing a renovation project that will cost \$3.5 million. In order to start the project, all of that money has to be raised or have pledges for the total before work can begin.

The exciting news is that almost one-third of that goal has been met! On Sept. 11 President Helm announced over Facebook, "I have exciting news to share, and it's not just that I now have my own Facebook page! We are off to an amazing start in our fundraising efforts for the Hillel Renovation and Expansion project. Our goal, as you probably know, is \$3.5 million. Now, I am happy to report, we are almost one-third of the way to the finish line thanks to a spectacular, but anonymous, \$1 million challenge gift from a

Muhlenberg family. I know that this is just the start of a very successful fundraising drive, as long as we all work hard and commit ourselves to the goal. Please join me in celebrating this great news!"

President Helm made his announcement first by this by messaging all of the members of the Facebook group "Hillel" and then by posting on the wall. Jewish Chaplain Patti Mittleman was pleased that the announcement was made first to the students because she said, "it is students who will most directly benefit from it and who will be our partners in making it a success."

Mittleman also explained that Jewish ideologies concerning donations and charities place an extremely high value on anonymous giving so according to Mittleman, Hillel is content to be able to honor the donor's generous gift.

Since \$2.5 million still needs to be raised it is hoped that other Jewish families both alumni and

friends of the College will be inspired by the first donor to give a gift to Hillel for the renovations. Hillel is now in the process of mailing information to Jewish families on how they can get involved in the project with hopes that many people will give according to their needs.

Two hundred and fifty students attended Shabbat dinner last Friday night and Mittleman said that the only way they all fit was because half of them ate outside. Obviously this is not going to be possible when the weather gets colder and the last thing that Hillel wants is for students who want to participate in religious life to not be able to do so simply because of a lack of space.

To learn more about the renovations and to see pdf's of the building plans for the project you can log onto Facebook and look for the group entitled, "Hillel: The Next Generation."

GAMSON | FROM PAGE 1

Trap." If the Democrats attack Republican VP candidate Sara Palin with insults regarding her Alaskan heritage and credentials, thus placing her in the "they" category in the desire for a leader who is "one of us," they could lose support for acting in such a patronizing manner. Obama has avoided the trap thus far, having said in response to McCain's choice of a running mate that "she sounds like a captivating person with a great personal story." Gamson's concern for the Democrats in this aspect was that VP candidate Joe Biden be sure to avoid the trap in any Vice Presidential debates, for it would be an easy one to fall into.

Through his education and experience, Gamson offered opinions on the remainder of the election period. "I see the outcome of this campaign as inherently unpredictable,"

he began, going on to say that numerous events, either contrived or unpredictable, could influence the outcome of this election, including the portrayal of a "thwarted" terrorist attack, an unpredictable photograph of McCain that brings emphasis to his aging figure, or a change of events in Iraq.

Overall, Gamson brought to the College's attention just how influential the media and its focus on identity politics have become. Because while many people express cynicism regarding the "silliness" of the content of the media and the manner in which things are portrayed, not one of these people can claim that they are immune to the influence of the media.



After hearing Gamson's lecture, it became easy to wonder just how much of the truth is really out there, and how much of it the media prevents us from seeing.

**New Enthusiastic Writers  
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**Write for News!  
Email**

[theweeklynews@gmail.com](mailto:theweeklynews@gmail.com)

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
<b>Rain</b>	<b>Rain</b>	<b>Few showers</b>
<b>High: 64 Low: 56</b>	<b>High: 67 Low: 55</b>	<b>High: 75 Low: 54</b>

## New math scholarship

Alumni couple, Jack and Diane Ladley '70, recently made a gift to set up a scholarship as part of President Helm's campaign entitled-"The Talents Entrusted to Our Care: The Campaign for Muhlenberg College." The scholarship is entitled "The Ladley Scholarship in Mathematics" and will be awarded each year to a student in need who is also studying mathematics.

The couple, who are parents of a Muhlenberg graduate '01, have been strong supporters of the Muhlenberg Fund, the College's annual, unrestricted giving fund but they have always wanted to make a gift to endowment (the People of the College) knowing that endowment gifts are the highest priority in the Talents Campaign. The Campaign also consists of Capital (the Places at the College) and the Muhlenberg Fund.

The couple also knows the importance of students receiving financial aid. Mr. Ladley stated, "neither of us could have afforded to go to Muhlenberg without financial aid. Allowing deserving students access to a Muhlenberg education was important then and continues to be important now. That's one reason we want to give back to the college that has given us so much."

The Ladley donation contributed to President Helm's campaign's goal of reaching 105 million dollars in gifts by the year 2010. Currently, funds have reached 89.5 million and continue to grow. The campaign is continually looking for support from alumni, parents, and friends of the College. Anyone interested in presenting a gift to the College can do so by calling the Development Office at 1-800-859-2243 or sending a check made out to Muhlenberg College addressed to 2400 W. Chew St. Allentown, PA 18104.

*Information Courtesy of The Talents Campaign Website*



# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Ouellette - History

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Dr. Cathy Marie Ouellette is one of nineteen new professors here at the College this semester. After having considered Muhlenberg as a candidate for her own college education, she has now returned to offer that education to others.

As assistant Professor of History, Dr. Ouellette has an extensive knowledge of and interest in Latin America, which is highly apparent in her resume. She grew up in Massachusetts and attended a small liberal arts college in Connecticut. During her years there, Dr. Ouellette studied abroad in both Mexico and Spain. Her majors at Connecticut College were Spanish and Anthropology, and following her graduation she was offered a Rotary Fellowship through which she spent three years in Ecuador's capital city, Quito.

Following her extended study in Ecuador, Dr. Ouellette decided to further her knowledge of Latin America by continuing her history education at graduate school in Atlanta, Georgia. She recently spent a year doing project research in Brazil; her ability to

speak Portuguese in addition to her native English as well as Spanish helped her to truly embrace the culture.

Having just moved from Georgia to Pennsylvania this past August, Dr. Ouellette loves the college campus but remains interested in getting to know the Allentown area. She remarked that she is happy to be close to Philadelphia, as she enjoys the Philadelphia Museum of Art, but was also pleased to visit Allentown's own art museum and is looking forward to exploring the city.

In her first semester as a college professor, Dr. Ouellette is teaching three classes, one on Colonial Latin American History and two highly popular courses entitled "Image and Identity in Modern Latin America." In the spring,

Dr. Ouellette is planning to offer a course called "Race and Ethnicity in Latin America" and intends for it to fulfill the Diversity general academic graduation requirement.

In addition, she will teach "Trees and Disease - Environmental Latin American History," a course that will require students to go into the Allentown area and complete a service project.

In addition to her teaching, Dr. Ouellette hopes to eventually get involved in the College's study abroad program. "I think it is really important for students to study abroad," she said.

She believes that one of the best parts of the study abroad program is

the extent to which students are involved, with 43 percent of students taking advantage of the program. Considering her interest in studying Latin America, Dr. Ouellette hopes one day to participate specifically with the Costa Rica program.

## One down eighteen to go!

This year the College welcomes nineteen full-time faculty members to the Muhlenberg family. Each week we will feature one or two new faculty members so that students can learn about the new faces that they will be seeing around campus and maybe even in their major departments!

### OFF CAMPUS

#### *Saucon Valley School District ends strike*

The Saucon Valley School District is one of six local school districts in which teachers are working without contracts. The teachers went on strike eight days ago with a proposal for a five year contract with 5.5 percent annual salary increase, but abruptly went back to work on Sept. 23 without having their requests met.

The teachers decided to strike on Sept. 15 following a disagreement between them and the district regarding pay and their contributions for healthcare benefits.

Saucon Valley Education Association president Vivian Demko represented all 184 teachers in the district. She stated that they felt ready to return to class and "anxious to get back to work."

They will allow a three person panel to represent their case while they resume teaching.

With one person representing each side of the argument and one neutral party, the panel will reconvene after a time during which the each side has 10 days to submit proposals. The panel will then make recommendations, which if not agreed upon, could lead to another union strike.

Many students were unhappy with the strike, as they felt that the longer it extended, the more likely it was to have a negative effect on their education.

Despite the lack of a conclusion regarding the strike, both students and teachers are happy to be back in the classroom after the six days that it lasted.

#### *President Bush's final address to the UN*

On Tues. Sept 23, 2008 President George W. Bush addressed the United Nations for the last time.

In his speech Bush urged world leaders to take "an unequivocal moral stand" against terror tactics. The things he mentioned were akin to the early years of Bush's presidency where he called upon the world after Sept 11, 2001 to fight against terrorism.

As a result of the economic turmoil brewing on Wall Street he tried to reassure world leaders about the financial issues that have forced him to set aside core principles of capitalism and authorize government takeovers of failing companies.

Bush's 22-minute address in the completely filled, 2,000-seat hall

was predominantly a restatement of his previous terror condemnations, calls to advance democracy and criticism of the United Nations for "inefficiency and corruption" and "bloated bureaucracies."

Bush still stressed that the U.N. and other multinational organizations are "needed more urgently than ever" at the present time in order to combat terrorists and extremists who are threatening world order.

With only 119 days remaining in his presidency, Bush found his usually busy schedule almost completely devoid of other world leaders seeking to meet with him. He therefore made sure his points were driven home while delivering his final address.



## Correction!

In the article "9/11 never forget" in the Sept., 18 issue it stated that the both the flag display and the candlelight vigil were sponsored by the College Republicans. While it remains true that the flag display was planned by the College Republicans, the evening vigil was actually planned by Chaplain Peter Bredlau and students Sara Keller and Lauren Spirko.

## Writing & Information Consultation Center

Level A. Trexler Library

A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR  
WRITING AND RESEARCH NEEDS!

Drop-in hours to meet with writing tutors:  
Sunday-Wednesday 3PM-11PM Thursday 3PM-5PM & 7PM-9PM

Drop-in assistance with research anytime  
and research consultations by appointment.

### WRITING | FROM PAGE 1

the library staff to refer students as well as for tutees to find tutors to help them.

Kelly Cannon, Outreach and Scholarly Communication Librarian, and Jen Jarson, Information Literacy and Assessment Librarian, also add, "There was strong desire for more interaction between librarians and tutors because of the essential connections between research and writing."

Furthermore they assert, "The Writing and Information Consultation Center is for the writing and research process from the very earliest stages of a preliminary thesis to the final production in a class, conference, or publication."

The Writing and Information Consultation Center is best used when visited often during the writing and research process."

The Writing and Information Consultation Center is comprised of fifty-four tutors who are all students at the College. These tutors are trained to help other students

develop their ideas, enhance matters of style and delivery, and improve their organization.

Ranging from sophomores to seniors, the tutors differ in their majors and minors creating more diversity within the program.

The process of becoming a tutor is very selective in which each individual student who is applying for the job needs to submit an application, a professor recommendation, a portfolio of some of their written work, and carry out an interview with the staff.

After being selected to be a part of this program, the writing tutors are also required to take a semester-long Writing Theory course taught by professors Dr. Jill Stephen and Dr. David Rosenwasser.

Also available at the Writing and Information Consultation Center are subject-specialist reference librarians who are trained to help students with research-based projects such as bibliographies, abstracts, literature reviews, annotated bibliographies, and research papers.

Kate Conrad, Assistant Director Writing &

Information Consultation Center, eagerly states, "The Writing Center has seen a steady increase in the number of students who use its' services, as the new space provides a comfortable, welcoming atmosphere, and the opportunity to also seek advice and assistance from the reference librarians who work in the same space."

She also mentions, "We have received much positive feedback from both students and professors who both enjoy the new space, and have benefited from the services provided here."

The College, especially those involved in creating this new center as well as the tutors, are extremely excited that the new space is finally open and already bustling with students.

Conrad adds, "We are excited and hopeful about both this beautiful new space, and the collaboration between the Writing Center and the Information Literacy Librarians it facilitates." This makes the Writing Center an excellent resource for students.

## Campus Safety Notes

Sept. 15 - Dispatch Code - Campus Safety notified about rumor circulating about gang activity. Information has not been substantiated.

Sept. 15 - Disorderly Conduct - 22 St. - Student reports being harassed by neighbor who is not affiliated with Muhlenberg.

Sept. 15 - Vandalism - Trexler Library - Graffiti reported on the South side of A level. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 16 - Vandalism - Brown Hall - Reports that someone has left religious marking on first floor walls.

Sept. 17 - Fraud - Campus Safety receives reports that an older gentleman, during move in, solicited a monthly fee for securing students' information for an online company. The company says they do not offer such a service.

Sept. 17 - Residential Policy - Prosser Hall -

Reports of a student storing a moped in the room. Student was referred to judicial.

Sept. 18 - Traffic - Same person who had the moped was found to have a car as well. That was also reported to judicial.

Sept. 18 - Theft - Walz Hall - Reports of a laptop being taken from a fourth floor room. The Laptop was later returned. The accused says it was a prank, and was referred to judicial.

Sept. 18 - Medical - Ettinger - Student appeared to be very ill and was transported to Health Center.

Sept. 18 - Traffic - 26 St. - Freshman found with a car. Student has been referred to judicial.

Sept. 18 - Alarm - Delta Zeta House - Fire alarm sounded as a result of nearby construction.

Sept. 19 - Medical - East Hall - Reports of student

passed out in bathroom of G wing. EMS called Allentown EMS. Allentown Police arrived and arrested student. Student refused medical treatment.

Sept. 19 - Residential Policy - Walz Hall - Reports of excessive littering in the first floor men's bathroom. ORS took pictures. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 19 - Vandalism - Front Drive - Reports of blue paint bleeding through a sheet that said "APO Pledges."

Sept. 19 - Alarm - Leh St. - Steam from shower caused fire alarm to sound.

Sept. 19 - Theft - Reports of a stolen wallet off campus. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 19 - Theft - Reports of stolen brown parking sticker, numbered 1196, 08-09. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 19 - Missing Person - 26 St. - Reports of a student who left their house and could not be located. Student was later located and found to be alright.

Sept. 20 - Liquor Law - Walz Hall - Student was transported to the hospital after consuming eight shots of liquor and vomiting.

Sept. 20 - Suspicious Person - Liberty Street - Five suspicious persons were reported to Campus Safety. All were identified and found to be visitors of a student.

Sept. 20 - Liquor Law - Brown Hall - Student feared to be suffering from alcohol poisoning. EMS paged Allentown EMS. Student was arrested by Allentown Police.

Sept. 20 - Theft - Chew Street - Collapsing table stolen from Parents Plaza. Table valued at \$125. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 20 - Theft - Liberty Street - Car window smashed and GPS unit stolen. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 20 - Alarm - 2202 Gordon St. - Student cooking set off fire alarm.

Sept. 20 - Theft - 2263 Turner St. - Student reports theft of bike. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 21 - Liquor Law - Brown Hall - Reports of a student feared to be suffering from alcohol poisoning. Student was unresponsive. Student was taken to hospital by Allentown EMS.

Sept. 21 - Suspicious Person - 25 St. - Two suspicious white males were reportedly entering private property. Allentown Police later identified the suspects.

Sept. 21 - Vandalism - 26 St. - Stickers were put over a sign at the corner of 26 and Chew. Pictures were taken. There are no suspects at this time.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"Life is like an onion: You peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep."

-Carl Sandburg

## BLAH BLAH BLAH...MINORITIES: not as deep as it seems

By Kati Neubauer  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Minorities again?!

The Sedehi Diversity Project showed the thirty minute controversial play *Blah Blah Blah...Minorities* twice last week, on Wed. Sept 17 and Thurs, Sept. 18, in the Red Door.

There were no empty seats in the house as the audience prepared to be shocked. The presentation, organized by students for students, was a commentary on diversity on campus, derived from many interviews with students and other members of the College community.

Christopher Alvaro '10, director of the show, explained that extreme views given by the interviewed were deliberately put together in such a way as to prompt a discussion after the show.

Also, he revealed in the talkback that the show, a staple in the orientation weekend experience for freshmen, has been revamped this year.

The issues were more controversial and the actors tackled the verba-

tim feelings of those interviewed, in order to keep the themes and topics discussed during the show as accurate and real as possible. The whole idea was to help those watching understand what it means, and how it feels, to be a minority in today's culture, on an off campus.

One of the main topics discussed during the show was the misleading images of diversity on the College's website. According to the show, the website makes it seem as though there is more diversity than there actually is.

Shocking? For this audience, maybe not. Most of the students who attended the show, which was advertised as, "an original documentary theater piece," have been a part of the campus community for some time now, and one would think that they are used to the homogeneity.

Several lines were followed by laughter, head shaking or nodding. For some of the students the presentation didn't dig deep enough because the issues were presented but not explained. It did not seem

like the show went into depth about the feelings and emotions that these issues stirred up.

One student said after having seen the show twice that she still didn't understand everything. She indicated that this confusion may be a catalyst for her to get to know her community better. As she said, "The performance was fun and touched a lot of daily topics."

Another student argued that she wasn't shocked at all since these ethical, religious, sexual and personal issues are part of every society.

She said she could relate to some quotes about superficiality and the need of putting people into boxes, which angered her, although she understood that change may just be a question of time.

The performance ended the same way that it started. The audience was left with a burning curiosity and eagerness to learn more about the diversity issues in their community.

Students now know that it is up to them to educate themselves about diversity, and such knowledge is a

necessity in their communities.

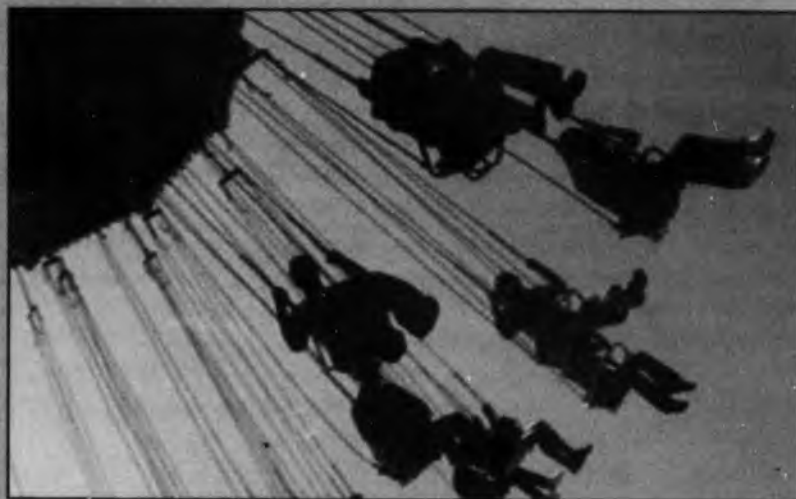
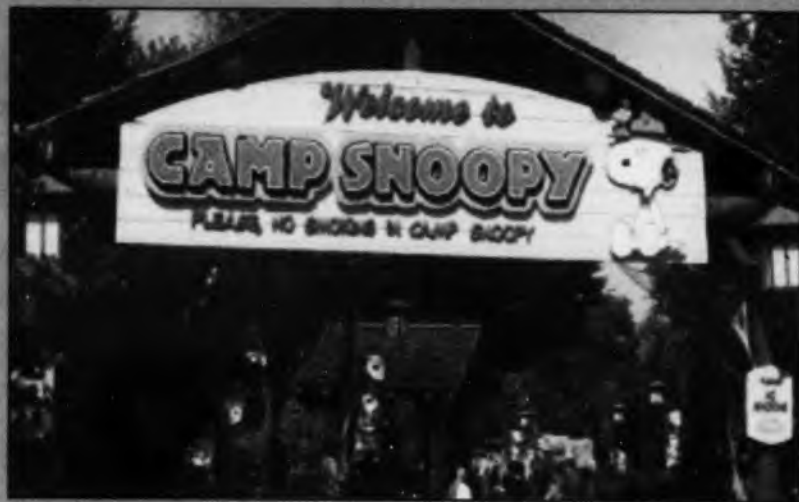
In order to keep the tradition of the show alive, the Sedehi Diversity Project is looking out for new members for next year's show who are willing to comment on the campus's big concerns.



Christopher Alvaro, '10, the director of the show.

PHOTO BY KATI NEUBAUER

## College Day at Dorney Park



College students in the Lehigh Valley purchased \$10 tickets to the park on Sun., Sept. 21. Picnic lunch was provided and students could have unlimited rides for the day.

PHOTOS BY SARAH SANZOLO



# Embrace nudity...

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Everyone was born naked, and everyone has seen stomachs, inner thighs, entire backs, and bare behinds before. If these parts of the body are new to you, you need to talk to your mother.

Something that is really disturbing, though, is that no one admits to any of this. We all just walk around pretending that we have virgin eyes and also don't want anyone else to see that we, too, in fact, have body parts just like everyone else.

We hide in the corner changing our jeans, ask our friends to leave the room, and do fancy things like putting two shirts on and magically switching them to take off the one underneath. When does the madness stop?

Society has dictated that clothing needs to be worn all of the time, but that's not necessarily true.

If you're by yourself or with someone you know, there is no need for every single article of clothing.

Granted, there are times when it's just not cool to

be naked. In public, around a bunch of people of the opposite sex, and in front of your physics professor are a few places where modesty can be appreciated. (For more potential situations, see the chart for what might happen and if it's a good idea or not.)

Obviously, if you don't want to see someone else's body, that's your deal and you can manage that accordingly (close your eyes!). But seriously, why the unneeded modesty?

There's also no need to put on clothes to run to the bathroom late at night. Just take the plunge, your modesty is not worth the effort of putting on your entire pajama set because one person on your hall might see you. Even if someone does, so what? The world won't end; in fact it might be better that way.

You've now reached a new level of trust with this person, and you've developed a deeper friendship.

Nudity has other upsides

to it, too. You don't have to deal with the restrictions of clothing on the body's natural range of motion.

It's a wonderful feeling to be able to move your arms all the way around without the tight cuffs from a work shirt pulling on them.

Most importantly, nakedness is naturally freeing and unhindering. It's liberating!

Hanging out naked can bring you back to your roots (unless you were born with clothes).

Now when you're without pants and you need to make a run down the hall, don't be afraid to brave the world and go as is.

Being naked is a wonderful feeling, don't miss out on it just because you're afraid of someone finding out that you do, in fact, have a body just like everyone else.



	Room	Hallway	Seeger's	Street
No pants/shirt	Nothing will happen, unless your roomie is allergic to legs.	Watch out for the opposite sex.	Avoid this.	Be prepared for some honking.
Underwear only	Sure, why not.	Low-traffic hours are fine.	Good if you want to get noticed.	Think about how long that "short errand" will take.
In the nude	You have a right to be naked in your room. Your roommates can close their eyes.	You WILL be seen. And that will be awkward.	This is called streaking, and it is not a good option.	It's too cold out, wait for June.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

WHICH OF YOUR RESIDENTS DO YOU SECRETLY WISH YOU COULD BE?



"Karl, he's suave."  
- Adam Hutz, '10



"Have you met my residents?"  
- Jon Rosenau, '09



"My residents actually wish they could be me."  
- Bill Konicki, '11



"Gabs."  
- Suzie Holt, '09



"I wish I was Jon at the end of the hallway, it would be fun to be really tall."  
- Brian Sechrist, '11

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## Carmike Weekend Listings



### Igor

Fri. 4:40, 7:00, 9:30  
Sat. 4:40, 7:00, 9:30  
Sun. 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

### Nights in Rodanthe

Fri. 5:10, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:10, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:10, 8:00, 10:30

### Eagle Eye

Fri. 4:40, 7:30, 10:15  
Sat. 4:40, 7:30, 10:15  
Sun. 4:40, 7:30, 10:15

### Righteous Kill

Fri. 4:10, 7:40, 10:00  
Sat. 4:10, 7:40, 10:00  
Sun. 4:10, 7:40, 10:00

### The Women

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

### Disaster Movie

Fri. 5:00, 10:20  
Sat. 5:00, 10:20  
Sun. 5:00, 10:20

### Burn After Reading

Fri. 5:20, 7:50, 10:10  
Sat. 5:20, 7:50, 10:10  
Sun. 5:20, 7:50, 10:10

### The Dark Knight

Fri. 7:10  
Sat. 7:10  
Sun. 7:10

# Far from "Gaga" about *The Fame*

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

When desperately aspiring "artist" Lady GaGa first registered on the mainstream radar earlier this summer with her visually stimulating music video for "Just Dance," she completely raised the bar for dance-infused pop. She immediately caught the eye of people such as celebrity gossip blogger Perez Hilton, who compared GaGa to an "old school Madonna."

She then went on to be recruited by record label executives who were drooling over her status as the hot new "it" girl about to take the music scene by storm. They wanted her to write and produce tracks for such industry heavy hitters as The Pussycat Dolls and New Kids On The Block, as well as for Britney Spears' heavily anticipated second attempt at a comeback album, *Circus*, set to be released on December 2.

If only they had waited a little bit longer to hear the end result of GaGa's debut album, *The Fame*, perhaps they would have reconsidered their decision to entrust her with the fate of some of their top selling artists.

Let's get straight to the point: GaGa fails to deliver any of the hype stimulated by "Just Dance." And she makes you, the listener, feel dumb for listening. As the track listing went from one song to the next, I literally felt my IQ dropping. This reaction is a product of the horrendous lyrics and the entirely

way too over-produced album as a whole. I found it almost insulting that I, as a listener, was expected to listen to this and consider it to be real music. The truth is that this is no more than a vocally challenged girl's voice that has been completely manipulated with a pitch modulator over synthesized beats.

Yet GaGa actually considers herself to be quite a talented musician and songwriter. On her official MySpace page she writes: "Consider the artist: GaGa is the girl who at age 4 learned piano by ear. By age 13, she had written her first piano ballad. At 14, she played open mike nights at clubs such as New York's the Bitter End by night and was teased for her quirky, eccentric style by her Convent of the Sacred Heart School classmates by day. At age 17, she became one of 20 kids in the world to get early admission to Tisch School of the Arts at NYU."

Newsflash: If poorly sung lyrics such as "boys, boys, boys, we like boys in cars, boys, boys, boys, buy us drinks in bars, boys, boys, boys, with hairspray and denim, boys, boys, boys, we love them!" could get you into a top-notch arts school like Tisch, then more people would get this prestigious program.

The album opens with "Just Dance," the only song worth listening to on the entire record. Despite its degrading depiction of young women, the track is the only one that you will remember after hearing them all.

The horrible lyrics essentially tell

the story of an ignorant girl who had "a little bit too much" to drink and is just going to dance it off before she passes out, despite the fact that she can't remember where she is, has lost her cell phone, keys, and dignity. Putting my feminist beliefs aside, this again is the only song that is worth keeping on your iPod because it will do precisely as the title promises: once you hear it, you will just dance.

Following right after is "Love Game," the worst attempt at making techno cross over to mainstream pop that I've ever heard. It's so off the charts ridiculous and tries so hard to be Cascada that it almost sounds like it's mocking the genre. The song begins with the lyrics "Let's have some fun, this beat is sick, I want to take a ride on your disco stick."

The tracks "Paparazzi," "Eh Eh (Nothing I Can Say)" and "Poker Face" come soon after, and they could cause ears to bleed (surprise, surprise!). With their electronically manipulated beats, they try everything possible to make the listener want to dance. You can think of these songs as Big Macs labeling themselves as health food.

They can try all they want, but, alas, there's no way they can pull this off. You can get rid of the extra piece of bread in the middle, but overall you're still eating a Big Mac and it's still going to clog your arteries.

Similarly, you can add as many layers of digital instrumentation to the bass line of these songs, but

you're still not going to want to hit a dance floor when they come on, let alone listen to them again.

Thrown in the midst of this electronic pop mess of a record is "Again Again," a track in which GaGa gives the illusion of stripping down the enhanced vocals and bares her soul. Unfortunately for her, there is nothing in this soul that's worth listening to, even for a brief second.

She channels her inner Fiona Apple wannabe (an artist she cites as a heavy personal influence) and "sings" over a poorly constructed melody. In comparison to the rest of the album, yes, the song is rawer and comes off completely acoustic when put next to a horribly digitally enhanced song such as "Summerboy." Nice try, GaGa, but there's a better chance that Heath Ledger will rise from the dead to attend a DVD release party for "The Dark Knight" than that you will ever sound like a real musician, especially someone as talented as Ms. Apple.

Lady GaGa's *The Fame* is one of the most over-produced and atrocious albums of recent memory. Her lyrics are beyond pitiful and even with a vocal enhancer, she has as much a claim to singing ability as Sarah Palin does to having enough experience to be a heartbeat away from becoming president.

Listen to this record just once and you will be scrambling your pockets hoping to find your FYE receipt so you can run back to the store and return it as fast as possible.

Read a good book lately?  
Been to a cool restaurant?  
Love that new movie you  
just saw?

Are you an A capella  
groupie? Then...

WRITE FOR LIFE!  
PLEASE?

Email:

Luanne Linares

LL233789@muhlenberg.edu

## Spirit Week Update

**Monday at the athlete auction the college was able to raise almost \$1200. All the money raised will be donated to our "everyday heroes" and their foundation; "Cops N' Kids" a Non-Profit organization that provides tutors to children all over the country.**

**Tuesday, the girls of the College competed in the annual Powder Puff Football game, and Wednesday Student Council hosted "A Knight on the Lawn."**

**Other spirit week events to watch out for:**

**Thursday, September 25, 2008  
COSTUME COUNCIL CATERING  
Dinner Time, Garden Room**

**Friday, September 26, 2008  
PEP RALLY  
9pm, Memorial Hall**

**Saturday, September 27, 2008  
HOMECOMING DANCE  
10pm, Garden Room**

**COME OUT AND SHOW OFF YOUR 'BERG SPIRIT!  
Good Luck to all the athletes all week long!  
Happy Homecoming!**

INFORMATION COURTESY OF STUDENT COUNCIL



## Guillermo Gómez Peña questions identity

By Jordan Shafer  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Two weeks ago, performance artist Guillermo Gómez-Peña came to the College to address topics such as personal identity and different nationalities. He accomplished this through both leading talks and performing for students.

Many classes on campus were encouraged to go to his talk and performances. One class in particular that both went to his talk and watched his performance was the first year seminar, Performing Identities.

This class read two essays in preparation for his show, one on Gómez-Peña's thoughts about having two nationalities and cultures (Mexican and American), and the other on the nature of performance art. Not surprisingly, when these essays were discussed in class there were varied reactions from the students.

Some people were offended by the idea of considering this topic in terms of performance art because of its refusal to follow traditional artistic and theatrical rules.

Some raised questions about the very definition of "art," while others began to critique his views on culture, asking questions such as, "What is American culture?"

Based on both the readings and these concerns raised in class discussion, the whole first year seminar went into both Gómez-Peña's talk and performance with a few pre-conceived notions about Gómez-Peña and performance art in general.

Gómez-Peña started off by interviewing the audience. He did this by asking questions such as, "Has anyone here ever hired an illegal immigrant?" as well as "Who here considers themselves people of color?"

For a short time, the audience was actively involved in the performance. Gómez-Peña then went on to deliver a series of monologues about a variety of topics.

For example, he talked about how a few conservative congressmen would like to remove Spanish

from any official writings including signs, forms, and warnings.

Additionally, he gave an abstract and erotic description of his relationship with his laptop.

He filled moments between talks by drinking soap. Also, he delivered many other monologues about different topics concerning a variety of cultures.

He ended the performance interactively by inviting the audience again. First, he blessed many different countries all around the world. He then asked the audience to start yelling out countries for him to bless. Afterward, Gómez-Peña ended his performance by yelling "God bless America!"

He touched on a lot of different ideas about America and what is and is not considered culturally acceptable. Moreover, from the very first question, he got people thinking about their nationalities and what it is they consider themselves.

However, the audience had mixed reactions. Some were disappointed and expected the performance to be much more liberal and shocking. Some felt like they were just being barked at for two hours.

Still, others didn't think Gómez-Peña wanted people to take him too seriously. Instead, he would be pleased to know that so many people reacted so diversely to his talks and performances.

After all, early in the show he said, "The only difference between a performance artist and a madman is that a performance artist has an audience."

This statement can be understood as a disclaimer meaning, "don't take me too seriously." Gómez-Peña recognizes that although he is highly esteemed by audiences and critics, his art could just as easily be considered random madness.

He also wants his audience to really think about his work; there is no one correct interpretation of Gómez-Peña's performances, which is why they are so interesting.

They are meant to get people thinking, not to convince people how to think.

## Gossip Guru: News from Hollywood

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Some tragedy struck Hollywood this week as a plane crash critically injured two young stars. Travis Barker of Blink-182 and DJ A.M. (real name Adam Goldstein) were involved in the crash of a small jet in South Carolina just after midnight on Friday. Out of the six people on board, Barker and Goldstein were the only two that survived. The two suffered severe second and third degree burns, and were airlifted to a nearby hospital. They were found by doctors to be in critical but stable condition.

Several celebrities close to Barker and Goldstein voiced their concern over the accident. Although she did not make a public statement, Nicole Richie was said to have been worried upon hearing about the accident. Richie, who was engaged to Goldstein several years ago, apparently voiced her concern to several close friends over the well being of her ex.

Shana Moakler, Barker's ex-wife, flew to South Carolina to be by his side when she heard news of the crash. Despite being divorced, Moakler and Barker have had an on-and-off relationship over the last few years, and have two children together.

Singer Mandy Moore, who used to date DJ A.M., also flew into South Carolina to be by the DJ's side as he

continues to recover.

After being seen together in public for months, Lindsay Lohan finally admitted to being in a relationship with Samantha Ronson. Lohan stated during a radio interview that she and Ronson have been dating for "a very long time." Although their relationship had long been assumed by the media, neither star had publically confirmed the speculation.

Jessica Simpson's new country album, *Do You Know*, debuted at number one on the country music charts. This news comes as somewhat of a shock, as Simpson has been facing heavy criticism from both the country music fans as well as the country music industry. Her music also gained negative publicity after several less-than-perfect public performances. While singing in front of a crowd on *Good Morning America*, Simpson awkwardly stopped singing and asked her musicians to start over because she was not able to hear the music.

Simpson first performed her new country music at the Country Thunder USA Festival in Wisconsin over the summer. She received mixed reactions from the audience of country music fans. Some booed and argued that she was not welcome into the country music genre. One concertgoer stated, "she is an embarrassment to country music." Others, however, cheered her on and said that they enjoyed her music and that "she has a great voice."

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# As one streak stops ... another one begins

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Muhlenberg Lady Mules' undefeated season ended Wed. night as the Women's Soccer Team lost to

Messiah, 3-1.

Messiah College outplayed Muhlenberg for much of the game, as they were able to get 33 shots off, 13 of which went on goal. 'Berg goalie Kate Morrissey had a career game, stopping ten of them, but her defense gave her little help as she was unable to stop three of the shots.

"I knew that the stakes were high," Morrissey said. "I knew that I had to be mentally focused and play my hardest for 90-plus minutes if I wanted to help my team win the game. It was exciting for us going into the game knowing that Messiah was so highly ranked, and that we had the opportunity to beat one of the best teams in the nation. We wanted the Cinderella story, and I knew that I had to give it 110%."

"Messiah is the number two team in the nation, but despite that we stuck right with them the entire game," freshman Nicolette Miller exclaimed. "I think our letdown at the end hurt us the most."

The scoring opened less than five minutes into the second half of the match, as Messiah's Amanda Naehner was able to get a shot in off of a pass from Rachel Horning. Muhlenberg tied it just six minutes later as junior Christina O'Grady scored 'Berg's first and only goal of the game.

Messiah took the lead for good with less than ten minutes remaining in the game. Erica Hench scored an unassisted goal, and then scored an insurance marker about a minute later to put the Lady Mules away.

"I think that we played really well against Messiah, and we were able to

keep up with them throughout the game," Morrissey continued. "Towards the end they had a few big breaks that they capitalized on, and we were not able to capitalize on all of our opportunities. Overall, we are proud of how we played. It was a disappointing loss, but now we know that we can play with the best."

Only three days later, the Lady Mules traveled to McDaniel College for their first Centennial Conference game of the season. They have won their first game in the Conference, and are now a very respectable 6-1 overall.

McDaniel came out to a big lead in the second half, scoring two goals in less than three minutes. Sophomore Rachel McCallum scored in the 51st minute while freshman Bridget Thomas scored in the 53rd minute to give McDaniel a 2-0 lead and it looked like they would not give it up.

The Lady Mules, however, did not give up at all, and immediately went to work. Junior Kasey Hacker scored less than three minutes after McDaniel's last goal to cut the lead in half, and then she scored again just over two minutes later to tie up the game.

Junior Jayne Condon scored in the 68th minute to give 'Berg a lead they would not relinquish. Freshman Meghan O'Grady then scored an insurance marker with just over a minute remaining to seal the deal for the Lady Mules.

Muhlenberg had 26 shots, 14 of which were on net. McDaniel had two shots, neither of which Kate Morrissey was able to stop.

"The team started to connect with each other," freshman Jamie Weiss said about the comeback. "We were able to find each other and play as a team."



Left: Freshman Nicolette Miller winds up for a shot; Middle: Junior Sammy Hayden C.C. Defensive Player of the Week; Right: Sophomore Matthew Cecconi stands strong with the rest of the Mules' defense.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Soccer Mules open up C.C. with a victory

By Daniel Wayne  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

For the second consecutive game, the Men's Soccer Mules (4-2) relied on the scoring abilities of two of its forwards, senior Brendan Carroll and freshman Cody Antonini. This time though, their scoring came against Centennial Conference foe Franklin & Marshall (2-4) and led to a 2-0 victory and Conference win.

During the first half, the 'Berg offense dominated the field with six shots, compared to the two by the Diplomats, but was unable to put away a goal. Senior captain Billy Dalton set up many of these scoring opportunities through his incredible work ethic and persistence. "(He) put a lot of pressure on the ball defensively," praised head coach Sean Topping, and by doing so "did not give (the Dips) a lot of time or space to play their game." Dalton's persistence paid off in the second half though.

After gaining the lead on junior captain Sammy Hayden's assist and Carroll's goal, his second in as many games, the relentless Mules were

ready to strike again. Only a little over three minutes later, the Topping described "work horse" Dalton showed his determination. After chasing down a blocked shot half way across the offensive zone, Dalton turned on a dime and sent the ball back into the middle of the goaltender's box. Standing at the receiving end of this cross was Antonini, ready to chip the ball just high enough to be out of the reach of the Dips' goalie. This was assist number three on the season for Dalton and goal number two, in as many games, for Antonini.

The Mules' defense was also impressive. As if it were not enough to hold F & M to a total of six shots in the game, the reality that only one of the shots was actually on goal helps paint a picture of solid wall that is the 'Berg defense.

This extraordinary performance did not go unnoticed and as a result, Hayden was awarded Centennial Conference Defensive Player of the Week.

The Mule's next opponents are Elizabethtown College on Wed., Sept. 24 and Centennial Conference rival Gettysburg College on Sat., Sept. 27. Both of these games will be played at home on Varsity Field.



# Philadelphia Flyers preview for 2008-09 season

By Alan Bass

WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

**2007-2008 RECORD:** 42-29-11, 95 points, 245 GF, 227 GA

**PLAYERS SIGNED:** F Jeff Carter (3-year, \$15 million contract), D Steve Eminger (one-year contract), D Ossi Vaananen (1-year, \$1 million), F Glen Metropolit (2-years), Nate Raduns (1-year), F Riley Cote (3-years, undisclosed), D Randy Jones (2-years, undisclosed), F Arron Asham (multi-year contract), F Joffrey Lupul (4-year, contract extension).?

**UNSIGNED PLAYERS:** F Jesse Boulerice, F Jim Dowd (UFAs), D Nate Guenin (RFA)

**NOTABLE TRADES:** Acquired defenseman Danny Syvret from the Edmonton Oilers for centre Ryan Potulny; acquired a 2008 seventh-round pick and a 2009 conditional fourth-round pick from the Tampa Bay Lightning for the rights to left wing Vaclav Prospal; acquired 2008 first and third round picks from the Columbus Blue Jackets for centre R.J. Umberger and a 2008 fourth-round pick; acquired defenseman Steve Eminger and a 2008 third-round pick from the Washington Capitals for a 2008 first-round pick; acquired defenseman Janne Niskala from the Nashville Predators for left wing Triston Grant and a 2009 seventh-round pick; acquired Patrik Hersely and Ned Lukacevic from the L.A. Kings for Denis Gauthier and a second-round pick.

## 2008 NHL ENTRY DRAFT:

Round	Pick	Overall Player
1	19	19 Luca Sbisa
3	6	67 Marc-Andre Bourdon
3	23	84 Jacob DeSerres
6	27	178 Zac Rinaldo
7	15	196 Joacim Eriksson

## DIDGER-GIROUX

Claude Giroux is the next best thing in Philadelphia. He scored 103 points in 69 games for the Gatineau Olympiques of the QMJHL. He also set records in the playoffs, scoring 51 points in 19 games, leading his team to the Memorial Cup Championship.

If Giroux is placed on the wing with Briere centering him and Gagne opposite him, look for him to challenge for the Calder Trophy this year. He could easily put up 60-70 points this year on that first line. However, if Stevens and the coaching staff do what they always do, which is not allow rookies a fair chance, he will struggle to get 20 points on the third or fourth line.

## WILL THE REAL MIKE RICHARDS PLEASE STAND UP!

Mike Richards, the biggest surprise of last year, and most likely the captain for this coming year and the next 15 years, is still not the best player on the team. He had a brilliant year in 2007-2008, and had more points than Danny Briere. However, he needs to have one more year leading the Flyers in points so that we know he was not just a one-year wonder.

I personally believe that Richards' great season was not, in fact, a fluke. He is truly a talented player, and as long as John Stevens can find a great place for him on a line, he will surpass 80 points almost every year for years to come. He could possibly be the next Bobby Clarke, and many Flyers' fans are hoping that it means a Stanley Cup is coming back to Philadelphia.

## STOP LUPUL-ING MY LEG!

Joffrey Lupul showed last year that he is an elite forward in the National Hockey League. He played amazingly well last season, and had so many more goals than any of us could have imagined. He will most likely hit the twenty or thirty goal mark this year, and will seem like a bargain, making just over \$2 million.

He is an unbelievable player in this league and on this team, and if he can duplicate and expand on last year's performance, the Flyers will be set with him for the remainder of his career.

## MIKE NUBLE...THE "K" IS SILENT (in my mind).

I don't even think that Knuble is going to make the first line this year. He showed last year that he was not as capable as we thought to be able to put up thirty goals. That could be because of a lack of Forsberg and Gagne,

but he still needs to be able to produce without those two. He is going to be put on the second or third line, and will struggle greatly. Look for him and his salary to be traded away this year at the deadline.

The Flyers are still over the cap, and by getting rid of Knuble, they will rid themselves of his \$3.5 million salary that he was given after the lockout. He was a two year wonder (if that is a real term), and did not do much last year. I think that he is losing his skill, and getting up there in years. Unfortunately, I think the Flyers ultimately need to get rid of him this season.

## YOU JUST GOT BURNED!! CO-BURNED!!!

Braydon Coburn is the next star defenseman in Philadelphia. The deal he signed last year will look like a bargain by the end of this season. Coburn is the next amazing defenseman in this organization, and the Zhitnik trade to get Coburn to Philly will soon be known as one of the best trades in team history.

Coburn is fast, has an amazing shot, and can play stellar defense, as he led the Flyers' defensemen in plus/minus this past season with a plus-17 rating. Coburn has all the talent that Timonen has, plus a little more raw talent that needs to be utilized by the Flyers' coaching staff.

## THE DEVILS AREN'T THE ONLY TEAM IN TOWN WITH A MARTY!

Martin Biron proved himself during the playoffs last year. Biron is a very capable goalie, and Flyers' fans saw that last season when he carried them to the Eastern Conference Finals, what seemed single-handedly (even though it wasn't). His acrobatics and his unbelievable clutch play earned the Flyers a spot in the Final Four for the first time since 2004, when they lost to the Tampa Bay Lightning in seven games. He will easily be the starting goaltender when the puck drops in October.

## SO WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN?

The Flyers are just as good as they were last year, and they are a year older, making the majority of their team a bit better. Unfortunately, they will fall victim to the Atlantic Division and fail to win it. They will make the playoffs again, and perhaps get to the second round, but I don't see anything more than that happening to Philadelphia this year.

**PREDICTION:** Third in Atlantic Division, Fifth in Eastern Conference.

Do you think you  
could do better?

Write for sports!

Contact Matthew at  
mg235866@muhlenberg.edu

# The early surprises in college football

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

**East Carolina-** The Pirates fell this weekend to North Carolina State in overtime, 30-24, but ECU has also defeated Virginia Tech and West Virginia this year. After getting passed both the Hokies and the Mountaineers, it looked like the Pirates had a shot of running the tables and going undefeated but this weekend the Wolfpack proved to be too much to handle. But hats off to Skip Holtz and his squad, right now they are 3-1 and have a great shot to finish 11-1 and take home their first ever Conference USA title.

**Vanderbilt-** The Commodores are 4-0 for just the 4<sup>th</sup> time since World War II and are ranked in the top 25 for the first time since 1984. Vandy is more known for their academics than their football program but this season could be something special. I'm not crowning them national champions but a 2-0 SEC record is unheard of from the Commodores. So far this season they beat Miami (OH), South Carolina, Rice, and Mississippi. Neither USC or Ole Miss are your top tier SEC programs but both have had respectable years in recent memories. This weekend the Commodores are off but on the slate for the rest of the season are showdowns with #16 Auburn, #3 Georgia, #4 Florida, Tennessee, and #16 Wake Forest. We'll see if this team is battle tested but I believe we will see Vandy in a bowl game, I mean they still get to play Duke this season.

**Brigham Young-** When this season started, I said that BYU will be the only undefeated team after the regular season. I still believe that BYU will run the tables to finish the regular season undefeated but a little program

from Los Angeles will join them with an unblemished regular season record. The Cougars started the season with a pounding of Northern Iowa, 41-17, but then Washington gave BYU a real scare. The Huskies scored a touchdown with just 2 seconds left to make the score 28-27 but a controversial excessive celebration call on Washington QB Jake Locker pushed the PAT attempt back to the 18 yard line. BYU was able to block the extra point and prevail with the 1 point win. Domination would be an understatement for the next two wins by the Cougars. QB Max Hall threw for 7 touchdowns as BYU manhandled UCLA 59-0 and this weekend Hall threw for a modest 3 touchdowns as the Cougars beat Wyoming 44-0. A couple tough games stand in the way of the Cougars and perfection. First on October 16, BYU will face a 4-0 TCU squad and then the Cougars will take on #17 Utah in their season finale on November 22. If BYU can get by those two teams, the Cougars will be perfect for the first time since they won the 1984 National Championship.

Those are just a couple teams to keep your eye for the rest of the season.

Here are a couple of the big games on tap for Saturday:

3:30- Tennessee at #15 Auburn (CBS)  
7:00- #24 TCU at #2 Oklahoma  
7:45- #8 Alabama at Georgia (ESPN)  
8:00- #22 Illinois at #12 Penn State (ABC)

**Upset Alert-** #13 South Florida at North Carolina St. (7:30 on ESPNU)

## Mules claim double victory in Maryland

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Rebounding from a tough tournament last weekend, Muhlenberg Women's Volleyball claimed a double victory in Maryland this Sat., Sept. 20. The team swept McDaniel and Mary Washington, beating both teams in just three sets.

The wins improve the team's record to 11-4. The Mules are now ranked third in the Centennial Conference, and the team is set to surpass their 2007 season wins record (11-19).

"The week leading into the McDaniel weekend was a good week of practice," said Coach Jenny Warmack-Chipman. "The team came off a rough weekend at Scranton, so they had some time to think about what we needed to change and work on. With the time off, we were able to simulate certain situations and work out any kinks."

The Mules were uncontested when they played the McDaniel Terror (25-13, 25-16,

25-8). The contest saw a great offensive effort from freshman Jackie Price, who posted an impressive .688 hitting percentage, with 12 kills in just 16 attempts.

Senior setter Megan Eiser led the team with 29 assists. The Mules played a solid defense, led by juniors Christina Cangelosi and Brittany Williams. Cangelosi posted 11 digs, while Williams contributed 10 digs and four blocks.

The Mules kept the momentum going when they faced out-of-Conference team Mary Washington, winning in three sets (25-21, 25-16, 25-16). Williams had eight digs, and junior Phylcia Lee led the offense with seven kills.

Reflecting on the match, Warmack-Chipman said she was pleased with the team's consistency in both games.

"I personally was most proud of the fact that our players played very disciplined volleyball," said Warmack-Chipman. "They kept their focus throughout and never let up - and the score indicates that."



Freshman Jackie Price records one of her three blocks.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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# Mules dominate Union from the start and win convincingly 31-14

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

This game had all the makings of a "trap" game for the Mules. Muhlenberg's Football Team left around noon on Friday and made the 5 hour bus ride to Schenectady, N.Y. The Dutchmen of Union College had revenge on their minds as they were dismantled by the Mules last year 34-0 at Muhlenberg. However, the Mules (2-0), ranked sixth in the country entering the game, proved to be way too much to handle for the Dutchmen (1-1).

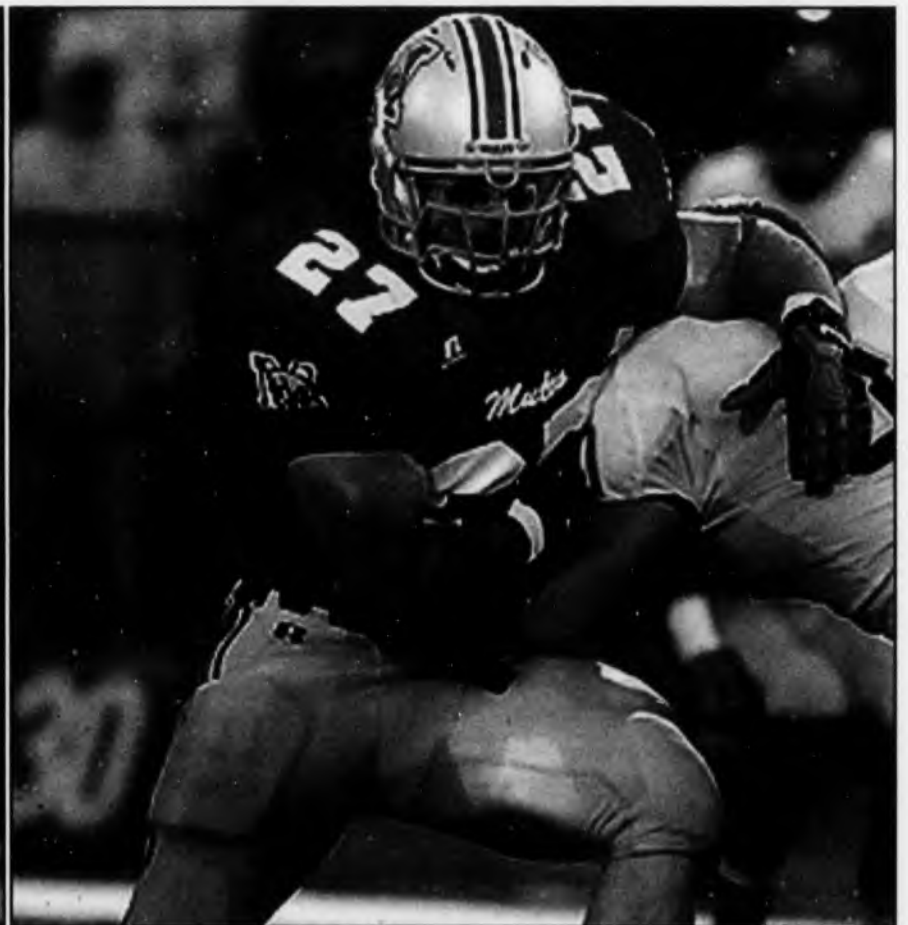
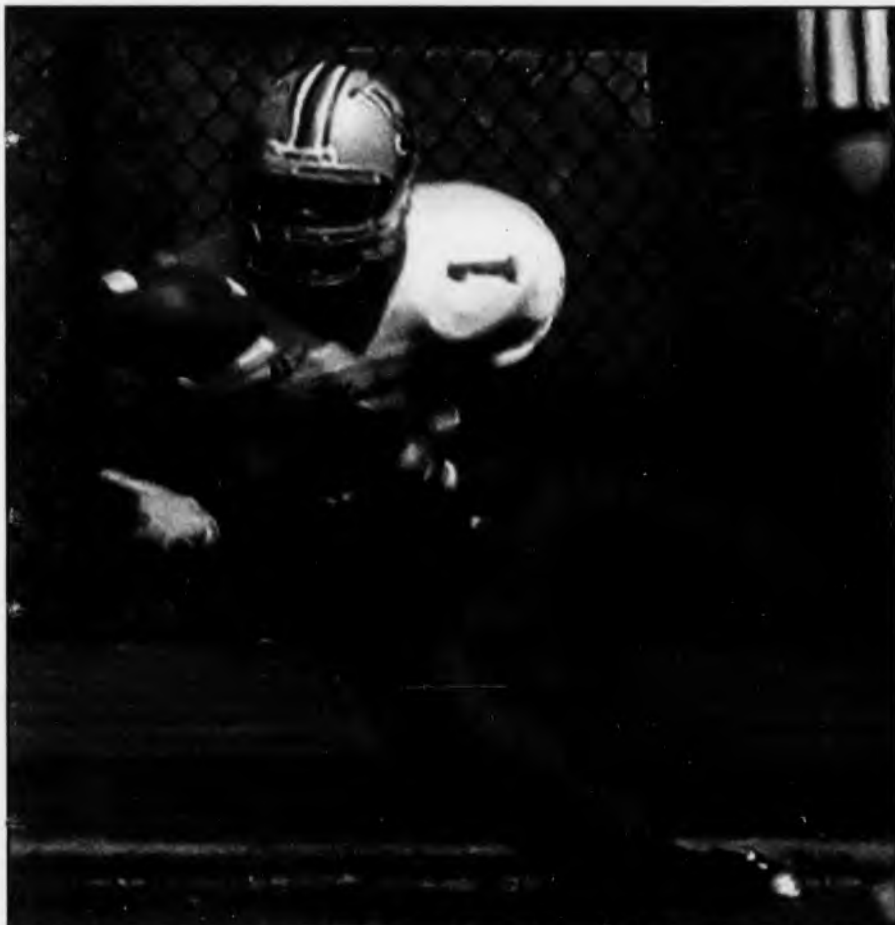
On just the second play from scrimmage, sophomore linebacker Scott Gavin picked off Union's quarterback Andy Cattelier and returned it 19 yards to the Dutchmen's 22 yard line. Four plays later, quarterback Eric Santagato found the end zone on a two yard run to put the Mules up 7-0. On the ensuing drive for Union, junior defensive lineman Jake Floyd forced a fumble on a sack and junior defensive end Frank Emmett recovered on Union's 16 yard line. Six plays later Santagato connected with junior tight end J.J. Contessa on a 1 yard touchdown pass to put the Mules up 14-0. Not only was that Contessa's first career touchdown reception, but it was his first career reception as well.

Union closed the gap to 14-7 when the teams went to the locker rooms for halftime, but the Mules would respond. Late in the 3rd quarter,

Santagato connected with junior wide receiver Phil Cresta on a 30 yard touchdown pass to put the Mules up 21-7. Early in the 4th quarter, Union was threatening on the Mules 18 yard line, but on 3rd and 13, senior linebacker Matt Rathbun picked off quarterback Andrew Connolly's pass attempt at the 16 and returned it 41 yards. Rathbun had a great day as he led the Mules with 8 tackles, including two them for losses, a sack, and a 41 yard interception return. Rathbun was also named Centennial Conference Defensive Player of the Week. After the interception, Santagato scored from the 1 yard line on a run to push the game out of reach for the Dutchmen at 28-7 with just 11:36 left in the game.

The Mules' defense was completely dominate against Union, allowing only 43 rushing yards on 33 attempts and recording 6 sacks on the day. The 31-14 victory added with a 9-6 loss by the then #4 team in the country, St. Johns (MN), moved the Mules to #5 in the country, the highest national rank in school history.

The Mules begin their defense of the Centennial Conference title this Saturday against Gettysburg (0-3) at Scotty Wood Stadium at 1 p.m. Last year, Gettysburg proved to be Muhlenberg's toughest opponent as the Mules blocked a last second field goal attempt by the Bullets to hold on and win 14-13.



Left: Junior J.J. Contessa catches his first career touchdown; Right: Senior linebacker Matt Rathbun was named Centennial Conference Defensive Player of the Week.

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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2008

# And the King and Queen are... Why Muhlenberg?



President Helm with Homecoming King, Ryan Kurtis '09 and Homecoming Queen Kelly Owens '09.

PHOTO BY ALANA LERER

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Sat. Sept. 27 was a beautiful day for Homecoming activities once the rain had stopped and the sky became clear. Luckily the weather had cleared up just in time for the reveal of Homecoming King and Queen!

About two weeks before Homecoming Weekend the class of 2009 was asked to choose two men and two women to be Homecoming King and Queen. From those selections a list of ten men and ten women prevailed. Subsequently, these twenty candidates were each interviewed by a panel comprised of faculty, staff, and students. The panel narrowed down the list to five men and five women who were then called the "Homecoming Court." The senior class was then urged to vote one more time in order to ultimately choose one man as Homecoming King and one woman as Homecoming Queen.

The final vote was announced at half-time of the football game against Gettysburg on Sat. The names of each member of the Homecoming Court were announced as the nominees walked out in twos to the center of the field. Also present was President Helm and last

year's Homecoming King, Alex Corgan '08, and Homecoming Queen, Kate Alford '08.

And now for the winners! This year's Homecoming Queen is Kelly Owens '09! Owens gracefully accepted her crown as Alford relinquished her title of Homecoming Queen to Owens by ceremoniously placing the crown on Owens' head.

Kelly Owens is an extremely active member of the College community. She is pursuing a double major in Philosophy/Political Thought and Religion Studies and is also involved in many campus activities. Owens has served on Student Council for the past three years as a representative for the class of 2009. Although she is not officially acting as a representative this year, she remains actively involved with her Class Council.

She has also acted as coordinator for numerous community service projects such as Dress Upon a Star, Jefferson Field Day and Dance for a Cure. Owens is also a member of Theta Alpha Kappa, the Religion Scholars Honor Society, and is also a sister of Delta Zeta. This year she spends most of her time on the staff

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By Kati Neubauer  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

This semester the College hosts three new exchange students, but why did they choose Muhlenberg when there are so many colleges in this big country? Why little Muhlenberg? is the first question you have when you meet a student from abroad. But there is a simple answer - it's a nice college, in a cute city, and there is the famous Allentown fair!

Julia Kooyman, a junior from the Netherlands, explains why she chose to study at the College. "I study at Muhlenberg because it is an exchange program between Hague University and Muhlenberg College. I am happy to study here, because it is a good opportunity for me to experience the differences in culture, teaching methods and student life between the University and the College."

Student life is also something that is especially interesting. In Europe it is uncommon that students live on campus, and the new arrivals at the College are also stunned by the "American culture" of college nightlife. The College provides a familiarity akin to this American culture not known by for-

eigners.

Akane Fukusawaa, a junior from Japan, responded to the question "Why Muhlenberg?" by stating, "I came here to learn English, and to understand American culture and business because my major is business. I am very interested in American-style business. The perspective of a company in America is different from that of Japan, so I want to learn the American way of thinking." She also favors the educational milieu and excitedly remarked, "the College has small-sized classes, which is a favorable environment to learn because each student can express his or her opinion in class. In addition, I see that some students are very interested in Japan and I am so glad for that."

In Japan and Germany, you easily might attend classes with fifty to two hundred other students who you sometimes barely get to know. Also, the campus buildings sometimes can be spread all over town, so no community can develop. Therefore, personal connections are just made in the specific departments of study.

Besides the academic challenges and the important and life lasting

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2008 Exchange students from left to right: Akane Fukusawa (Japan), Julia Kooyman (Netherlands), Kati Neubauer (Germany)

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATI NEUBAUER



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Go Team!

Grab the popcorn, the remote, and while you're at it, might as well grab a big foam finger...the debates have started. Who's going to win, will it be Team Red? Cue cheers and boos. Or, will it be Team Blue? Cue cheers and boos. The whistle blows, and they're off.

Is it just us or are the debates vaguely reminiscent of some sort of political Superbowl? Or maybe to be more accurate, a really well-televised tennis match, where the candidates go back and forth, back and forth. The problem is that damn net, also known as Moderator Jim Lehrer of PBS.

Obama and McCain seemed to both be hitting the net time and time again, and were given a second chance. Whoops, double fault. Both were repeatedly asked to actually answer the questions, which apparently is harder than it sounds. Lehrer asked them to direct their comments to each other, but after a brief moment of connection between the candidates, it was back to speaking to Lehrer, or at least the camera in Obama's case.

The presidential debate was exciting at points, frustrating at others, and overall left us wondering what was really said. McCain's trips down Memory Lane led our minds to our grocery lists. His story about the bracelet he wears, while touching, led to Obama's low point, in our humble opinion. "I have a bracelet too!" was Obama's well-formulated response. Oh dear. That definitely was not a slam dunk back in McCain's face, more of a technical, and embarrassing, foul.

The question remains, who won the presidential debate? Ask a Republican, we bet he'll say McCain. Ask a Democrat, we bet he'll say Obama. Because our team simply cannot lose. When a referee makes a call, it is only a good call if it benefits our team, otherwise the ref is blind. Are we really listening to what is being said, or have we already decided who has "won" before the game has even been played?

We think the latter, perhaps because not as many people watched the presidential debates as was expected. Why? Because they don't care what was said as long as their team wins. Fun fact though, the upcoming vice presidential debates are creating twice the hype as the presidential debates. Hype is good, but we feel that this time at least it was way, way off base. It is sure to be an exciting match-up, but let's not think the game is over before the final whistle blows.

## It's time for responsibility, America

By Rachel Majkszak  
ASST. OP/ED EDITOR

By the time you read this article, it's possible that the defeated \$700 billion bailout plan will be rejuvenated, reworked and reconstructed to create a plan that the President and Congress can agree upon and everyone is living happily ever after. But since I've experienced first hand how Washington works, I'm going to guess that's not the case and instead there is still partisan bickering going on over the best way to deal with the economy. I'm no economist, and I have no recommendations as to how to rescue us from the scary state our nation is currently in. I have mixed feelings about the proposed plan - obviously, something needs to be done as we undoubtedly move towards a recession. At the same time, why should my tax dollars be used to help those that made bad decisions and now find themselves in agony?

John McCain has received substantial criticism for his comment that

*We have a free market society with the opportunity to succeed. But we also have the opportunity to fail, and those are the consequences we have to deal with.*

"the fundamentals of our economy are strong." The Obama campaign spun the comment to make McCain sound like an elitist who can't relate to the rest of the struggling nation while he's relaxing in his twelve homes. But John McCain is right - the fundamentals of our economy ARE strong. We have a competitive, capitalistic, free market society, and hard-working American employees with the opportunity to succeed. But we also have the opportunity to fail, and those are the consequences we have to deal with as Americans. Every day we make decisions and we take responsibility for those

decisions. We cannot rely on anyone else to help us out when things go awry.

People made bad decisions - that's what it comes down to. Wall Street made some bad choices, homeowners over borrowed, banks made too many loans. Our nation has dug itself into a deep hole and it's clear that at this point we need drastic measures to revive ourselves. To put this into perspective for the college audience, listen to these wise words from President Bush: "Wall Street got drunk, and now it's got a hangover." To go with the hangover analogy, as we all know, no matter how much coffee

SEE RESPONSIBILITY  
PAGE 3

## Letter to the Editor: Conservative voices need to be heard

We wanted to take this opportunity to address a letter to the editor written in last week's paper entitled "Promote bipartisan values on campus." We are very pleased that the College Democrats agree with us that we need more bipartisan discussion on campus. We had written an article two weeks ago stating just that. In our article, we talked about the lack of spoken conservatism on campus. We would like to take this opportunity to reemphasize some of the points we made in our article that were misunderstood by the College Democrats.

First of all, and most importantly, our article was not an attack on the College Democrats. They have the right, and we encourage them, to be active members of the political discussion on campus. While they had interpreted it as an attack on their organization, it was not. In our article, we blamed ourselves for

the overwhelming liberalism. In fact, we specifically wrote "This fear of announcing one's political views is not right, but the truth is, we, as conservatives, are not fixing the problem by remaining quiet. We have allowed the people who create these stereotypes to continue misrepresenting conservatism."

Second, we would like to clarify a specific comment that the College Democrats made in their article. We had referenced that other political groups on campus are brainwashing students. The College Democrats took this offensively and assumed we were referring to their organization's activity and hosting of speakers. This, however, is not what we were alluding to. When we said brainwashing, we were referring to the fact that the liberal environment has made it an uncomfortable place to be a conservative. It has caused students to feel

shunned should they speak their mind on political issues. It isn't the fact that the College Democrats invited speakers to campus; it is the fact that liberal views have been influencing students from every sector of our college, including some faculty. It makes it hard to be a conservative.

The response written by the College Democrats is an example of the difficulty we face. We finally decided to stand up and make our voices heard, and we were immediately misinterpreted and smeared. If the College Democrats would like to have a discussion or debate about political issues, we would be delighted. However, we do not appreciate them misrepresenting our objectives and our views. We also do not appreciate them making statements about our organization without doing research. For example, they wrote that "The College

Republicans remained inactive—not even inviting Senator John McCain in spite of an administrative suggestion." This is incorrect. If the College Democrats would have bothered to ask us, they would know that we DID in fact contact the McCain campaign and have remained in contact with them since last year.

We apologize to the College Democrats if our article in some way offended them. But, had they read the article more closely, they would have seen it not as an attack on them, but as a way to mobilize conservatives on campus.

Lauren Spirko  
Class of 2011

Steven Kalman  
Class of 2010



# Capital T, Rhymes with B, Stands for Bailout

By Christopher Grau  
WEEKLY WRITER

There's a lot of talk about bailouts recently. It's not particularly surprising that the topic comes up, of course, with President Bush, Treasury Secretary Paulson, and Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke promoting what could amount to a \$700 billion government bailout of select financial institutions, on top of the almost \$1 trillion dollars the government has already spent on this issue.

While the amounts of money that are being thrown around are enough to make anyone a little passionate about their views on the bailout, I'm not really worried about the amount of money the government wants to spend or how much oversight Congress will have over Secretary Paulson. My main point of contention is the very fact that the federal government is trying to spend this money at all.

There is a concept in economics called moral hazard. Wikipedia (the font of all knowledge) defines it as, "the prospect that a party insulated from risk may behave differently from the way it would behave if it were fully exposed to the risk." Essentially, if the consequences of someone's action are removed or reduced, then that person is more likely to continue performing the action that brought about the consequences in the first place.

In the case of our financial institutions, mainly commercial and investment banks engaged in very risky, but potentially highly profitable, financial activities. Their investments went sour due to increased defaulting on mortgages, losing money, or even the bankruptcy of some companies. This should have taught the banks to not perform these activities to excess again. However, because the government would protect these companies from the consequences of their risky behavior, moral hazard says that these financial institutions will never learn. What the government is doing is creating incentives that promote the same sort of poor financial judgment that caused the very mess that we're in right now.

There are many structural reforms to the American monetary system, mainly to the Fed, which could be made to prevent this sort of thing from happening again. For the sake of simplicity, however, I'll stick to what the government should do in the case of the bailout, which is nothing. While the collapse of some financial institutions will hurt in the short run, in the long run we will all be better off. The best run banks will still remain while those who made risky moves will be gone, and the capital they had been using can be put to more efficient use. And when a market begins to

bubble in the future, like the housing market did this time, those banks that are still around will know better than to engage in more risky financial activity.

Looking beyond finance, the bailout has also begun attracting other industries. Already, Detroit smells the scraps from the table of Washington, D.C. and has come looking for its share of the handouts, crying that they just can't catch a break due to oil prices. All the while, however, foreign car companies like Toyota or Volkswagen continue to make cars superior in quality and MPG for cheaper. Just as in the financial sector, a government bailout of the auto industry would only harm competition, the very force that drives prices down and quality up.

And just in case you find the prospect of government handouts to Detroit unlikely, know that the federal government has already declared a commercial failure, the economic equivalent of a hurricane area being declared a disaster zone, of an industry in Maryland. This declaration is the first step on the road to granting the industry's requests for \$15 million in government support. What could this industry be? Why it's the blue crab fishing industry of course.

Call or write your Senators and Congressional representatives today and tell them that we don't want to bail bad businesses out.

*Because the government would protect these companies from the consequences of their risky behavior, moral hazard says that these financial institutions will never learn.*

## RESPONSIBILITY we drink or eggs we eat the morning after, it only covers the underlying causes. You made the decision to have a little too much fun the night before, and now you accept the consequences. On a much deeper level, the same goes for our economy. People enjoyed themselves too much and made some unwise financial decisions so now they're crying over the consequences. No government bailout is going to cure this hangover: what this nation really needs is an attitude adjustment about an underlying problem in America - lack of self responsibility.

FROM PAGE 2

Self responsibility is the basis of why I proudly call myself a Republican. I believe in making my own decisions, accepting the consequences, and not relying on anyone to bail me out when I've made one too many bad decisions. I've been told I'm cruel and heartless (and maybe it's true) but I don't see it as my (or the government's) responsibility to take care of anyone else. Sure, we can help each other out along the way and the government has a basic responsibility to provide an environment to give everyone equal opportunity. (Another one of my basic Republican principles - equal opportunity doesn't necessarily mean equal outcome) But your overall responsibility of well being rests with only one person: you.

Reading this, you may pin me as just another elite Republican out of touch with reality. So here I will be uncharacteristically sympathetic, and admit that the government needs some sort of intervention to get everyone back on their feet. And maybe this economic drama will be enough to make everyone realize the government won't always be there (nor should they be) to help them recover from their mistakes. Maybe this is the wake up call America needs to bring forth the sweeping change we need.

I'm not advocating that one candidate will be better at fixing this mess than the other. I haven't heard either candidate suggest a viable solution to the crisis, and whoever does get elected to office has a long road ahead of them - I'm not envious of the task they are about to undertake. But this is not necessarily a political issue anymore - it is a personal one. Whether you are Democratic, Republican or Independent (Green, Libertarian, Constitution, whatever floats your boat), it's time for a smaller focus on government intervention and a bigger focus on personal responsibility.

*No government bailout is going to cure this hangover: what this nation really needs is an attitude adjustment about an underlying problem in America - lack of self responsibility.*

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# Is Barack Obama good for the Jews?

## No

## Yes

By Mark Cantora  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

I never wanted to be "that alumni guy" who has nothing better to do than gripe about Weekly Editorials, but the recent story, "Sarah Palin:

Bad for the Jews," merits a response. Ms. Beitman argues that Sarah Palin, and consequently, John McCain are bad for America's Jews and Israel. It is hard to disagree with Ms. Beitman, considering Governor Palin's (non)record on Israel. However, Ms. Beitman should have followed her argument to its logical conclusion. John McCain and Sarah Palin are not good for Pro-Israel Jews, but neither are Barack Obama and Joe Biden. Senator Obama's wife's first cousin once-removed notwithstanding, there has been no indication that his administration would be any better for the Jews and Israel than John McCain's.

If Senator Obama's past waffling on Jerusalem and "Palestinian suffering" are at least partially representative of his stance towards Israel, than Senator Obama's track-record does not seem much better than Governor Palin's. It should also be noted that both Senator McCain and Senator Biden have been considered, "good for the Jews," and "friends of Israel," over the years. This may be true, but only if one accepts the strange paternalism that AIPAC and other "Zionist" organizations in the United States consider the true measure of being pro-Israel. Zionism's very essence, its reason to be, was Jewish self-determination. The Jews worked to reclaim their historic homeland in order to facilitate the Jewish people's right to determine their own national destiny.

But today, the United States government presumes to tell the sovereign state of the Jews how they should be running their own country and solving their own problems. This has effectively tied the State of Israel's hands behind their backs, while wasting 30 years of US citizens' tax dollars. For the past 30 years, all efforts by the United States to "help" Israel in their struggle with the Palestinians have failed, and failed miserably. The "Zionism" of the US administration is slowly destroying the State of Israel as a proud and independent nation.

Under the assumption that being "good for Israel," is also "good for the Jews," there are no major party candidates for Jewish Americans to be excited about. Clearly, the same policy of pseudo-Zionist paternalism espoused by both the American political Left and Right will be continued, no matter the results of the election.

All Jews should be insulted that US politicians do not consider the Jewish State capable enough to solve its problems on its own terms. Ms. Beitman is right. A McCain/Palin administration would be bad for the Jews. But so would Obama/Biden. Although what is good for the non-monolithic demographic of, "the Jews," could be debated indefinitely, there is one certainty: Both major party candidates are bad for Israel.

By Sara Beitman  
OP/ED EDITOR

To reply to Mr. Cantora's response on my article last week entitled "Sarah Palin: Bad for the Jews," I will go into more detail of

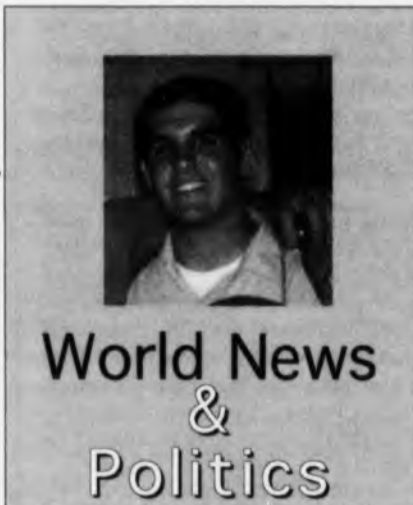
why Barack Obama is good for American Jews and Israel, (despite receiving a malicious e-mail this week, bashing me because the person did not agree with my opinions).

Barack Obama recently visited Temple B'nai Torah in Florida, to discuss his views on Israel and anti-Semitism in front of seven hundred and fifty Jews, (which is probably more people than the Rabbi had seen since last Yom Kippur). Senator Obama made it abundantly clear that he is and always will be a defender of Israel. Obama told of how, as a child attending camp, he had a Jewish counselor who told him about Zionism. Obama said "I really connected with it, because in Zionism, there is this sense of rootedness, of having a place and a home. And for a kid with my unusual background, and not knowing precisely where I fit, this struck a tremendous chord." Obama then said "I have always believed that Jews and African Americans have a historic bond. If it wasn't for the Jewish community and their central role in the Civil Rights struggle, I wouldn't be here running for President." (Meanwhile, McCain voted against making Martin Luther King's birthday a national holiday). Obama said "Israel is our strongest ally, and our best friend in the Middle East. I want to talk to Arabic countries to convince them that they have to learn to live in peace with Israel." He said that in order to change your enemies, you have to meet with them, (which McCain refuses to do). If you only talk to your allies, you will never make progress. Obama also has articulated a plan for strengthening Social Security, which will help our (Jewish) grandparents in Boca.

After Obama's recent trip to Israel, many politicians and leaders were awed by his commitment to the safety and security of Israel. The editor of the Jerusalem Post wrote that Obama knew precisely about the intricate issues confronting Israel, while John McCain had to ask Senator Lieberman for help when answering the Israelis' questions. Former Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu said that he was impressed with Obama's understanding of the Iranian threat, and said they both agreed that a nuclear Iran was unacceptable.

Sarah Silverman said "Barack is a Hebrew word that means lightning. I would much rather have a president whose name means lightning, than a president named John whose name means toilet." But seriously, in congress, Obama voted in favor of Israel 100% of the time. I am not telling you who to vote for, but Obama will continue the U.S. commitment to a strong and secure Israel.

## Debate review and preview



World News  
&  
Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

It is always very hard to tell who wins a Presidential debate. In the immediate hours after last Friday's opening battle between John McCain and Barack Obama, it was almost comical to see the varying

opinions spread across each news outlet, along with the contrasting messages of victory sent out by both campaigns. It would seem to be irrational to declare a blowout win for either candidate, as most people tend to agree that it was relatively close. Barack Obama currently has a slight lead in most polls and has seen his numbers remain steady after the debate. Regardless, while neither party could feel too down about the first performance of their candidate, neither could be ecstatic about the way the night went.

John McCain came after Obama aggressively as expected, often talking down to him about not "understanding" certain issues and making exaggerated claims about Obama's voting record on taxing. Despite being a little more passive at times than most Democrats would have liked to see, Obama had a solid performance.

He handled himself well and

should have alleviated concerns that he isn't ready for the task of being President. There was no way he looked out of place debating John McCain, who has been in Washington for decades upon decades.

The first Vice Presidential debate is tonight, featuring Joe Biden and Sarah Palin. Despite bringing some initial excitement to her ticket, Palin has come under a fire storm of criticism recently for being unprepared to speak on major issues, and lacking the skills to be anywhere near ready to handle the Presidency if it became necessary.

During this week, she is undergoing intense preparation from aides within the Republican Party, who fear she will stumble on a national stage against a seasoned veteran of Washington like Joe Biden. During the debate, she won't be able to respond to a question by saying "she has to ask John," like she did during

one of her recent interviews. The Republican Party has sheltered her heavily from the press so far, as they continue to try to get her up to speed with the particulars of national issues.

As a Democrat, you have to feel very confident that Joe Biden should outperform her tonight. The only potential problem could be if expectations are so low for Palin that a mediocre performance could end up being heralded as a great one. It would be tough for Democrats if the general consensus of the debate was that Palin came out with a tie or a victory. It remains to be seen how Palin can articulate her opinions of the complex issues facing our country at the moment. Nobody is saying Biden is going to be a spectacular debater but there is little doubt that he can hold his own, especially on foreign policy issues, which is something Palin might be woefully under-prepared to speak about.



# “Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology”

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

It's no secret that here at the College we as students are blessed with some extremely talented faculty. But what many students are not aware of is our professors' impressive work outside of the Muhlen-bubble.

A worthy example of this can be found in Dr. Tammy L. Lewis. Dr. Lewis has been a member of the Sociology and Anthropology department here at the College since 2001. She teaches many of the major's course requirements as well as electives on Environmental Sociology and Social Movements.

She has also co-taught “Environmental and Cultural Conservation in Latin America” with Dr. Niesenbaum of the Biology department, a course which extends students' knowledge through a field portion in Costa Rica, and has worked as a part of the President's Greening Committee.

Dr. Lewis acknowledged that her interest in environmental sociology began with her undergraduate thesis at Vassar College, which centered on environmental issues at the New Jersey shore. Her interest on a more global level developed during her time as a graduate school student at the University of California at Davis.

As a grad student, Dr. Lewis spent time at the United Nations' Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, and has pursued her interest in Latin American environmental issues ever since.

Since 1992, Dr. Lewis has continued her field work in Latin America through spending time in Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, and Peru. The College awarded Dr. Lewis with a Fulbright Award and the Class of '32 Research Award two years ago, with which she traveled to Ecuador for research

purposes regarding the impact of transnational funding on the Ecuadorian environmental movement sector and the country's rural and urban environments. She is currently writing a book on the Ecuadorian Environmental Movement.

This publication will be far from a first for Dr. Lewis. She has released numerous publications in the past eight years, also serving as the Reviews Editor for a scholarly journal with the American Sociological Association.

Most recently, she has released a forthcoming textbook entitled “Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology,” which was co-authored with Dr. Kenneth Gould. Dr. Lewis wrote three lessons with Dr. Gould prior to this publication, and this most recent collaboration has led to an innovative text made up of twenty

lessons that have been classroom tested and recommended by renowned professors in the department of environmental science.

According to Dr. Lewis, the idea for this text originated from a discussion among environmental sociology professors and their dissatisfaction with introductory-level readers, (edited books presented with chapters from numerous authors,) and their complicated ways of presenting information to undergraduate students.

“We decided that it would be much more useful to have an undergraduate reader that was based on our most successful professor-to-student communications (our classes), rather than our most impressive professor-to-professor communications (our published professional journal articles),” state Lewis and Gould in the introduction to their text.

With this goal, Drs. Lewis and Gould launched a project that led to their final publica-

tion. They began with a list of important undergraduate topics and then approached numerous successful colleagues, asking them to choose from the list and provide their most well received class lectures and lessons on any of the subjects.

This innovative approach to creating a reader has granted the resulting text praise even prior to its publication. Oxford University Press called it “the most student-oriented book available for environmental sociology courses,” and continued to praise its fresh take on the creation of an undergraduate environmental science text.

Dr. Lewis' experience and extensive knowledge in the field have not gone unnoticed in the college community. While she will be returning to campus after the spring semester of 2010, Dr. Lewis is currently on leave in order to serve as a Visiting Professor of Sociology at CUNY/Brooklyn College's Honors Academy.

She has been hired as the Carol L. Zicklin Chair and is working to “develop interdisciplinary linkages among faculty working on issues of sustainability” in addition to teaching courses on sustainability.

“It's an exciting time to be doing this work because New York City has an ambition sustainability plan that is it trying to implement,” Dr. Lewis noted in regards to her time at CUNY/Brooklyn. “When I return to Muhlenberg College, I will have a lot of practical information to share.”

The College looks forward to Dr. Lewis' return, and extends its congratulations regarding the success of “Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology.”

*“Oxford University press called it ‘the most student-oriented book available ...”*

## HOMECOMING | FROM PAGE 1

end of the College community working as a Presidential Assistant in the Office of Alumni Relations.

Owens stated that when her name was announced as this year's Homecoming Queen, she was initially confused and surprised. She exclaimed, “I was absolutely shocked. Every single nominee was extremely deserving of the title and I had no expectations of winning. Caitlin, Dana, Hannah and Leah are all absolutely fantastic young women and add such a great dynamic to our community. I was really excited to have even been nominated among such a fantastic group of Muhlenberg students.”

When asked what it means to be called “Homecoming Queen” Owens said that she is not really sure but that it is an honor to have been nominated and supported by her class and she hopes that the class of '09 chose her because they think that she represents the College well. She sums up her title by stating, “I honestly love the Muhlenberg Community and feel honored to be chosen for this title. Essentially, I hope that being chosen as Homecoming Queen means that my love for this campus is evident through the organizations I am involved in and the relationships I have made

here.”

As soon as the crowd of current students, Alumni, faculty and staff had a chance to calm down after the excitement of the College's new Homecoming Queen, it was time to announce this year's Homecoming King!

And the new Homecoming King is Ryan Kurtis '09! It was obvious by his expression when his name was announced that he was extremely excited to have received the title of Homecoming King. Kurtis was all smiles as Corgan passed his crown over and placed it on Kurtis' head.

Like Owens, Kurtis is an extremely involved member of the College community. He is pursuing a double major in Theater and Media and Communications as well as participating in many of the activities the College has to offer.

He is a brother of Sigma Phi Epsilon, a supervisor for the Muhlenberg Fund Phonathon, and a member of the Cardinal Key Society and the Senior Class Connections Campaign (SCCC). He is also very active in Hillel and sings with the Acafellas and sometimes the College choir.

When his name was announced Kurtis felt extremely honored that his class had chosen him to represent them and the rest of the school by carrying on such a great tradition. He exclaimed, “It was pretty exciting to hear my name when they announced the winners because it's the first

big thing I've ever won at Muhlenberg.” When asked what being “Homecoming King” means to him, Kurtis talked highly of all of the College's traditions and ultimately decided that it is about making sure the College doesn't lose such a great tradition as Homecoming. He stated, “I think that being Homecoming King means that I'm carrying on a pretty cool tradition. The College is all about traditions and I think Homecoming is a very memorable and exciting one.”

Kurtis also added that being interviewed was a fun experience and that one of the questions that was asked of him was “If you could change the school's mascot what would you change it to?” After thinking about this for a minute he concluded excitedly that if the mascot had to be changed to anything it should be changed to the “Muhlenberg Bow-Ties.” When asked why he stated, “I think it would be cool to have a mascot that you can wear. Nobody wants to wear a mule, and bow-ties are definitely classy!”

When it comes down to it, every member of the Homecoming Court was extremely deserving of the title of Homecoming King or Queen and ultimately the senior class did not disappoint with their final decision.

Both Owens and Kurtis immensely contribute to the College community everyday through the many activities that they are both involved in making them both great representatives of the College.

*“...the senior class did not disappoint with their final decision...Owens and Kurtis immensely contribute to the College community.”*



# More Homecoming!



President Helm, Alex Corgan '08 and Kate Alford '08 with the 2008 Homecoming Court.



A very excited Ryan Kurtis and Kelly Owens acknowledge the cheering crowd as they make their way off the field.

PHOTOS BY ALANA LERER

## EXCHANGE | FROM PAGE 1

experience of American culture, the College has another bonus point that makes it interesting to visitors. It is only, as Germans would say, a "cat jump" away from the legendary New York and it is also close to other famous cities on the east coast, such as Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., making it a perfect starting location for trips on the weekends.

But of course it is not all about the fun. To be able to come to the College, the students have to succeed in a challenging application procedure. Kooyman, remembering the process pointed out, "Of all the students I was lucky enough to get selected to go to the College. I am so lucky, because I have the opportunity to study at the College with its excellent educational program."

Susan B. Norling, coordinator of International Programs, explained that although the College participates in a lot of programs to send American students abroad, the College has an exchange agreement only with three international Universities: The Hague University (Netherlands), The Potsdam University (Germany) and the Otaru University of Commerce (Japan). The attraction between those institutions, Norling points out, involves similar course offerings. All three overseas schools provide a large business major, with some of the classes even taught in English.

Not only temporary exchange students seek the opportunity to come to




the College. A fairly large number of international students stay for several years. Norling explained that other schools recruit students from abroad to attend their institutions whereas the College doesn't do that. The international students often hear about the school by word of mouth and decide to apply after getting to know about the good education and experience.

When asked why she wanted to attend Muhlenberg College, Hannah Mesouani, sophomore and international student from Morocco, exclaimed, "I always wanted to come to America!" Mesouani came to know about the College while attending a boarding school in the states and decided to stay to fulfill her dream of experiencing American college life close to the "fun" New York City.

For Ole Pedersen '11, from Norway, the decision to stay in the U.S. and with the College was to get a good education and because of the exceptional theatre-program for which the College has received national rankings within the top ten. Pedersen said, "The classes are awesome and the College is so close to Broadway in New York!"

So, why Muhlenberg?! The answer is simple but diverse: the College offers excellent academic programs, it is attractive to students from abroad for a fulfilling experience of American College life and culture because of its size, and last but not least its convenient location makes possible cool travel options. Overall, the College has a great campus community with a distinctive social life!

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
High: 62 Low: 43	High: 62 Low: 43	High: 66 Low: 47

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

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# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Heiman - Biology

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Kimberly Heiman is one of the nineteen new, full-time faculty members teaching at the College this year. Currently she is teaching Human Biology and Bio III: Molecules and Cells. She received her B.A. in Biology from a small liberal arts school in Sarasota, FL called New College of Florida where she studied horseshoe crabs for her senior thesis. She went on to receive her Ph.D. in Biology from Stanford University where she worked with Dr. Fiorenza Micheli concerning human impacts on oceans.

In graduate school she specifically studied invasive species issues in California estuaries, looking at how invasive species spread and how human impacts such as building bridges increase the activity of invasive species.

Dr. Heiman also held a joint appointment as a scientist for an organization called "Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea" and as a post-doctoral researcher at Oregon State University. During this appointment she worked on issues related to natural resource management in the oceans and communication of ocean science to business managers, policy makers, and the media.

Basically, Dr. Heiman works broadly on issues related to human impacts on the environment. She stated that all of her work has been

on oceans and estuaries but she intends to study local issues such as parks and watersheds. She studies how the impact of humans alter where and how native animals and plants can live. She also does work on different approaches to managing natural resources such as fish stocks, clean water, and urban development.

When asked why she wanted to go into the field of education she responded with a smile, "I have always enjoyed teaching and have been teaching in one capacity or another since middle school. My life has taken me down many paths but teaching has always been something I have enjoyed." Dr. Heiman also revealed that she lived in Japan for six years teaching English to elementary school children while she was attending high school and college.

Her job search is what ultimately brought her here to the College from the west coast. She explained that when you are in the field of education you have to look everywhere for a job since there is not much out there and sometimes you may even have to search internationally. She stated, "My husband and I are both academic. We were conducting a national job search and both found jobs at Muhlenberg. We are very excited to be here as the town, students, and college are extraordinarily welcoming." Her husband, as stated, also teaches at the College in the Physics department.

## Dr. Carter - Anthropology

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Benjamin Carter is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology here at the College. While he is only teaching on campus for a single semester, Dr. Carter is sharing his extensive knowledge of anthropology and archeology in multiple courses with strong enrollment. He is currently teaching two sections of "Intro to Cultural Anthropology" as well as "South American Archeology."

Dr. Carter grew up in a small coastal town in Maine and returned there to teach this past summer after spending eight years as a college professor at five different universities.

He attended graduate school at Washington University in Saint Louis, where he received his Ph.D in Anthropology with a focus on Archeology. He began his teaching career at Washington with his first full time job as a professor. From there, Dr. Carter taught at the University of Missouri in Saint Louis, and has moved on since then to teach at Muhlenberg's own Wescoe School, Lehigh University and, most recently during the 2008 spring semester, Drew University.

After his teaching at Drew, Dr. Carter returned to his home state, where he created and organized and Archeological Field School. The school offered a three week program over this past summer in which he instructed seven students on the

fieldwork that archeology entails, allowing them to participate in their own archeological digs.

Additionally, Dr. Carter did research in Ecuador regarding the topic of technological change and its effects on society. He visited the country once a year for nine straight years, refraining from doing so again this past year in order to write his dissertation on the subject.

When asked about his favorite part of his studies in archeology, Dr. Carter said that his main focus is a small one; a creature in the shellfish family. The spondylus, a pretty, red, clam-like creature, was of great importance to Inca and Indian tribes of the past.

Dr. Carter acknowledged that the spondylus shell was known for being "more valuable than gold to the Incas" and was used in forms of exchange but, more importantly, was recognized as a ritual and social material. Dr. Carter appreciates the study of this object and its effect on society as it changed and developed over time.

While he is unsure of his teaching plans following the conclusion of this semester, the College is happy to welcome Dr. Carter as a meaningful addition to the Sociology and Anthropology department.

He will be a strong contributor to the department's goal of helping students to develop critical thinking skills while teaching them the history, knowledge, and methods that pertain to both branches of the department.

## OFF CAMPUS

### *Michelle Obama talks to military families at Cedar Crest College*

Wife of Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, visited Cedar Crest College on Sept. 24. She was accompanied by Jill Biden, wife of Democratic vice presidential candidate Joe Biden.

Obama addressed a crowd in the College's Memorial Hall about the needs of military families, saying that they need a better support structure. She led a round table discussion with military spouses, remarking on how many of them are "working hard to do it all without the support they need."

Obama commented on the great resilience that military families show while dealing with the difficulties of having loved ones overseas. She continued to speak about numerous proposals that her husband would hope to enact in order to support military families if elected president.

Following her opening remarks to the crowd, Obama began her panel discussion with three local women from military families, Carol Reese, Kathleen Miller and Jill Slivka about the issues that they are facing.

Obama has hosted events similar to the one at Cedar Crest across the

country in order to highlight her husband's campaign proposals for veterans. These proposals include creating regularity in deployments, providing more resources to military units' Family Readiness Groups, improving mental and physical health care for combat veterans and overhauling the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It is hoped that this promoting event and others like it will increase support for Obama among military families, as veteran affairs have not been Obama's strength in the past. An August Gallup Poll of voters on a national level who had served in the military showed Republican presidential candidate John McCain leading Obama 56 percent to 34 percent.

In regards to the war in Iraq, Obama accused President Bush of conducting "an administration that says, 'This isn't a big deal, this war isn't going to cost much, just go about your lives.' A lot of our families feel like they're going through this alone because the rest of the nation has been sort of implicitly told, 'Don't worry.'"

She concluded this statement by saying that her husband will "responsibly end the war in Iraq," which was received with a standing ovation.

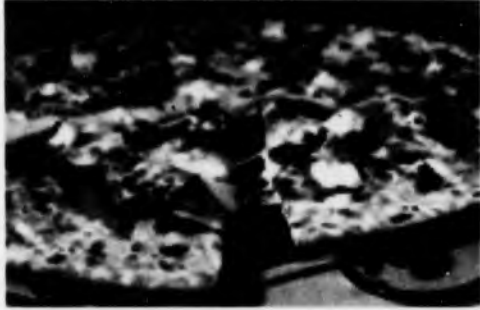
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## Correction!

In last week's article entitled "New writing center: more convenient for students and staff" the new center was incorrectly titled "Writing and Information Consult Center." The correct name is the "Writing & Information Consultation Center." We apologize for this oversight.

## Campus Safety Notes

Sept. 22 - Medical - Seegers Union - Sodexo employee was accidentally hit in head with pan. MCEMS transported worker to hospital.

Sept. 22 - Lost/Found - Liberty St. - Wallet found with credit card and drivers license but no cash. Wallet was returned to owner and Allentown Police is investigating.

Sept. 22 - Alarm - 2135 Chew St. - Fire alarm sounded as a result of cooking. No further incident reported.

Sept. 22 - Theft - Walson Hall - 3 or 4 black chairs were stolen from Walson lobby area. No suspects at this time.

Sept. 23 - Suspicious Activity - Trexler Library - Report of a man 30-40 years old, looking at pornography on computers near the elevators. Person was identified as a non student and escorted out of the library.

Sept. 23 - Vandalism - Benfer Hall - Reported that students are writing in wet cement. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 23 - Medical - 2442 Tilghman St. - Student reported back pains that did not go away. Student was transported to hospital.

Sept. 24 - Medical - Haas Building - Reported that a student at the Admissions office was feeling faint. Health center notified. Student refused further treatment.

Sept. 25 - Accident - N. 26 St. - Minor accident involving non students. Drivers exchanged informant. No further incident occurred.

Sept. 25 - Suspicious Activity - Chew St. - Hillel staff member reported that a male was pushed out of a car on Chew St. The person was a non student and the APD responded. No further incident occurred.

Sept. 25 - Liquor Law - Taylor Hall - RA responded to noise complaint on second floor. Upon arrival, breach of liquor law evident. Students sent to Campus Safety to write statements. The students were referred to the Judicial Process.

Sept. 26 - Lost/Found - Center for the Arts - Wallet belonging to student was found and returned to owner.

Sept. 26 - Alarm - 2411 Liberty St. - Fire alarm due to cooking. No further incident occurred.

Sept. 26 - Theft - South Hall - Report of a missing vacuum cleaner. RA checked with students but vacuum cleaner was not found. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 26 - Medical - Trexler Pavilion - Reported that a student had passed out. MCEMS contacted Allentown EMS. Student was transferred to hospital.

Sept. 27 - Alarm - South Hall - Fire alarm on second floor set off by popcorn. No further incident occurred.

Sept. 27 - Disorderly Conduct - Prosser Parking Lot - Alumni throwing garbage at Resident Advisors. A Letter of Trespass is to be issued.

Sept. 27 - Liquor Law - Walz Hall - An intoxicated student on the third floor was reported to MCEMS. MCEMS contacted Allentown EMS. Student was arrested and transported to hospital.

Sept. 28 - Liquor Law - Martin Luther - Sick student on the third floor was reported to MCEMS. MCEMS contacted Allentown EMS. The student was arrested and transported to the hospital.

Sept. 28 - Liquor Law - Walz Hall - Sick student was found on the fourth floor of Walz. MCEMS paged Allentown EMS. Student arrested and transported to

hospital.

Sept. 28 - Liquor Law - Martin Luther - Two individuals, a student and non student, were reported as being sick. MCEMS paged Allentown EMS. Both individuals were arrested and transported to hospital.

Sept. 28 - Liquor Law - Prosser Hall - Student was arrested for alcohol related infractions. Student was transported to the hospital.

Sept. 28 - Vandalism - Front Drive - Scarecrows were vandalized. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 28 - Liquor Law - Seegers Union - Student was cited by Campus Police for liquor law infractions. The student was referred to the Judicial Process.

Sept. 28 - Theft - Campus Wide - A former student who returned for homecoming reported having sun glasses and a razor stolen last year. There are no suspects at this time.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"I think I've discovered the secret of life - you just hang around until you get used to it."

~Charles Schulz

## Madonna treats the world with delicious new "Candy"

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

What's needed for a successful comeback, especially for a starlet of the 80s? Paula Abdul's answer is to recruit modern hit making producers such as Will.I.Am to revamp her old hits and mix them with new songs. The result is a "new" album set to be released this year. Janet Jackson attempted to pull off a similar feat with her atrocious new album "Discipline," which for some unexplainable reason debuted at #1. For Madonna, however, a comeback is a complete change of both sound and style.

The reigning and untouchable queen of pop evolves on each one of her records, experimenting with completely different genres each time around. Most recently, it was 2005's exquisite techno-influenced dance record "Confessions On A Dance Floor" that reminded the world why we fell in love with Madge in the first place. Still conquering charts twenty-eight years after the release of the debut album that set her on the path to a spot in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the original Material Girl is back with a new album and a brand new sound.

Having not only achieved record-breaking album and tour sales, Madonna has also been a Golden Globe winning actress (1996's "Evita"), an author, a fashion designer for retail giant H&M, a leading figure in the Hollywood trend of Kabbalism, and the director of a humanitarian documentary called "I Am Because We Are" to

raise awareness of the severe issues in Malawi. But now she is ready to rewind to the beginning of her huge resume and plunge head first back into the music market. In the process, she's transcending the pop borders she is accustomed to and crossing over into the hip hop field.

Recruiting current platinum ensuring producer Timbaland as well as hitmakers Pharell and Nate "Danja" Hills, Madonna revolutionizes herself yet again. With the top producers in the industry working with the top pop star, it was a collaboration guaranteed to not only create another hip hop influenced pop album, but the *definitive* genre defining album.

On board is also former NSYNC front man and current solo megastar Justin Timberlake, who helped Madonna's return to the scene by contributing vocals to the lead single "4 Minutes."

Accompanied by a hyperactive music video featuring Madge and Timberlake jumping all over cars, the song gives the illusion of Madonna as a super hero - a persona not that far from the truth. No, that is not a reference to the children she adopted to create her United Colors of Benetton friendly family portrait. It's simply referring to the fact that over the past three decades, she has been arguably the key player in steering contemporary pop down the path it has gone. Think about it: Without Madonna, there would never have been a Britney or a Christina.

The track following "4 Minutes"

is the standout number "Give It 2 Me." By far the catchiest song on the album, it sounds like what one would imagine a Jay-Z/Lasgo mash-up to sound like: it's got the electric pulses of a dance song yet still plays over a hip hop structured beat. It's virtually impossible to hear this song and not have a rush of endorphins that hunger for a dance floor.

Next comes "Heartbeat," a smooth and chilled-out song that makes listeners feel like they're sipping their last fruity drink at 6 a.m. after their E has worn off and the rave is clearing out. Madonna actually tries her very own rapping skills on the track momentarily.

The song is succeeded by "Miles Away," a song that feels like a collaboration of Madonna's previous hit "La Isla Bonita" and basically any number off of the "Evita" album. Yes, it doesn't really sound like that appealing of a fusion; however, it does more than deliver. The same can be said for "Spanish Lesson," a song clearly influenced by an urban Latin-American club sound. Any doubts about this collaboration evaporate after hooks of violent chords of a traditional Spanish guitar are heard as the song begins. Then Madonna starts singing "Yo te quiero," only to have the listener instinctively respond with "I love you too."

The two most hip hop influenced tracks on the album are "The Beat Goes On," a duet with Kanye West, and "Dance 2Night," another Timberlake/Timbaland production. The first of these two tracks sounds like Madonna broke into Rihanna's

recording studio and stole her best demo. Similarly, "Dance 2Night" could easily be the lead single off R&B diva Ciara's upcoming new album if she won the musical lottery. Both of these songs incorporate traditional hip hop rhythms with Madonna's trademark vocals, producing a result that is pure pop flawlessness.

The album finishes off with two darker tracks - "Devil Wouldn't Recognize You" and "Voices." These songs are layered with multiple harmonies and slow synthesized beats. Rather than tackling issues of relationships and sex like the rest of the record, the songs serve as Madonna's crash course in philosophy, featuring lyrical questions such as "Who is the master? Who is the slave," and "are you walking the dog, 'cause that dog isn't new, are you out of control, is that dog walking you?"

What's most interesting about the record is that, although it is her most recent and contemporary effort, it is the closest thing to a homage to her vintage 80's sound. Yes, it is full of hip hop elements and modern influences, yet somehow, these manage to loop back to and compliment her original musical styling, picking up pieces of all her recent albums and intertwining them.

With mediocre and rather disappointing albums like "Music" and "American Life," hope for a post-2000 Madonna was beginning to fade. But first with "Confessions" and now with "Hard Candy," the Queen of Pop is back in full swing—and really swinging.

## Senior Pub Night!



The first Senior Pub Night took place last Thursday at Johnny Manana's.



PHOTOS BY STEVEN TARR AND RACHEL MAJESZAK



# To bite or not to bite?

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Kissing involves lips and tongue, but does it involve teeth? The tricky subject of whether or not teeth should be part of being intimate is something rarely talked about. But using teeth is also very complex, and there are an array of ways to use your teeth; either for bad or for good.

One thing that might influence whether or not it's enjoyable is how intensely teeth are used. First there is the nibble, which includes just enough pressure that the person can feel it. Nibbling usually involves just the front couple teeth and alternating between areas. Nibbling, for the most part, is a safe bet and something a lot of people enjoy.

Then, there is the bite. The bite is usually concentrated in one spot, where pressure has amounted to a little bit of pain. More than just a few teeth can be used when biting, although not the whole mouth. Some people like a good bite, and some people don't. Biting should not leave any marks, though, which differentiates it

from the most intense type of using your teeth.

When the teeth really sink in to the skin and leave a mark, it's evolved into a chomp. Chomping might involve your entire mouth, molars and everything. This hurts, too. Most people are not fans of this, but sometimes it's exactly what someone wants. Before you take a big chomp out of your partner's neck, it would probably be wise to ask.

In addition to the different intensities of using teeth, there are also many different spots where people commonly like to be at least nibbled on. Lips and ears are probably the most common places that your partner's teeth might end up, but they aren't the only places. Necks and shoulders have also been known to be attacked by teeth.

These are some of the more well-known areas to use teeth on, but that doesn't mean that everywhere else isn't fair game. Each person likes different things, so don't be afraid to try things out with your partner. But if you don't know what their preferences are and don't want to

ask, it might help to know what the majority thinks.

When some friends and neighbors were asked what they thought about using teeth, they repeated the same two responses. Either "Hell no!" or "YES!" Nobody was indifferent to it.

Two people said they didn't like teeth at all. No nibbling, no biting, absolutely no chomping, and not on ears, lips, necks, or anything. They were completely against it and didn't like it at all. If you're into using your shiny white enamels, though, there is good news. That was only two people out of twelve.

Yes, believe it or not, everyone else polled thought that tooth action was pleasurable. One girl said, "I think everyone secretly likes it, they're just too afraid to admit it."

Nibbling was accepted by everyone who liked teeth in the equation, there are very few people who don't like being nibbled on a little bit. Don't be afraid to use your teeth lightly.

Biting was something a bit more controversial, some people were all for it

and some drew the line right before it.

And now on the subject of chomping, there are people who love it. Most people didn't, but that doesn't mean that it shouldn't ever be done. But to be safe, it's always good to ask first. Chomping shouldn't be lightly regarded - it hurts!

Why do people like using teeth at all? Well, there seem to be two possible reasons. Either they like the sensual feeling of it, or they like "the roughness of it."

The ears, neck, and lip are where most people enjoy the sensual effects of biting. Nibbling achieves sensuality best, where biting can sometimes cross the line.

The other reason is the roughness. When someone likes the edge of putting a little teeth into it, that means that a good bite is not off limits. People who like chomping like it because it can make someone feel dominated over.

If you're not sure if you should take the plunge, the best policy is to ask. Your partner will be impressed that you wanted to know their opinion first. And then sink your teeth in to a good time.



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF HOMECOMING?



"Going to Woody's with all the alumni that I missed and catching up."  
- Sean Surdveo, '09



"Not realizing it was homecoming weekend because of schoolwork until my AcaFellas gig."  
- Steve Finklestein, '11



"Professor Troy Dwyer."  
- Liz Wasser, '08



"Batman begins."  
- Jessica Joy, '12



"My favorite parts of homecoming were the few moments of sobriety, when I was able to spend time with my friends."  
- Jared Marlett, '08

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## Carmike Weekend Listings



### How to Lose Friends and Alienate People

Fri. 4:20, 8:15, 9:50  
Sat. 4:20, 8:15, 9:50  
Sun. 4:20, 8:15, 9:50

### Blindness

Fri. 4:15, 7:05, 9:50  
Sat. 4:15, 7:05, 9:50  
Sun. 4:15, 7:05, 9:50

### Burn After Reading

Fri. 5:30, 7:45, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 7:45, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 7:45, 10:30

### Nights in Rodanthe

Fri. 5:30, 7:45, 10:00  
Sat. 5:30, 7:45, 10:00  
Sun. 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

### Eagle Eye

Fri. 4:00, 7:45, 9:55  
Sat. 4:00, 7:45, 9:55  
Sun. 4:00, 7:45, 9:55

### Lakeview Terrace

Fri. 4:20, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:20, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:20, 7:20, 10:00

### Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist

Fri. 5:35, 7:45, 10:00  
Sat. 5:35, 7:45, 10:00  
Sun. 5:35, 7:45, 10:00

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## Miracle at St. Anna an example of wasted potential

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

*Miracle at St. Anna* is historical fiction based on the novel by James McBride (who wrote the screenplay). It follows four members of a black Army squad caught behind enemy lines in a small village in Tuscany during the waning days of the war. The Germans have become desperate and are turning against their Italian allies and the spillover of this conflict reaches all the way into the seemingly remote hiding place where Staff Sergeant Stamps (Derek Luke), Sergeant Cummings (Michael Ealy), Corporal Negron (Laz Alonso), and Sam Train (Omar Benson Miller) are awaiting extraction. While there, they share some quiet moments with the locals, care for a boy rescued by Train from a collapsing building, and prepare for the inevitable that will accompany the arrival of the Germans.

Lee emphasizes the prejudice experienced by black soldiers during the second World War in ways both subtle and obvious. One character tellingly remarks that he "feels more free in a foreign country" than at home. Sex between a black man and a white woman is not the taboo in Tuscany that it would have been in the United States, although the sequences used to illustrate this have a distinct "soap opera" feel. The arguments presented in *Miracle at St. Anna* are not dissimilar to those uncovered in the 1989 movie *Glory*. Lee arguably becomes too heavy-handed with his decision to make a commanding officer a racist. But it's easy enough to understand why he pounds the pulpit so hard, since stories of black wartime heroism are few and far between.

The film's acting is better than adequate and, as is often desirable in ensemble pictures, no one actor hogs the spotlight. The best performance is provided by Luke who, as the leader of the ragtag group, radiates ability and moral uprightness. Stamps is the kind of man anyone would want to serve under in circumstances like this, and Luke gives him the necessary dignity. As

Cummings, Ealy has the unenviable job of playing the somewhat stereotyped part of the man who's good in a fight but a pain-in-the-ass when bullets aren't flying. Ealy does what's needed, though, by mixing a brash hostility with a stark recognition of reality, and crafting a personality that is by turns abrasive and sober.

Those expecting battle scenes will be disappointed. This is a war movie with a minimum of fighting. The total time of on-screen shooting tops out around ten or fifteen minutes. Limiting the action allows for more character interaction; unfortunately, this aspect is of variable quality. Some of the quieter, more reflective scenes work, but many of the talky, dialogue-driven ones do not. Although the majority of the movie takes place in the '40s, the story is bookended by sequences transpiring in 1984, when a murder with World War II roots has occurred. While the near-contemporary opening draws the viewer into the story and creates a sense of mystery about the proceedings, it's questionable whether this approach to the material serves the story well. The back-end of the bookend, forming the epilogue, is contrived and unconvincing.

*Miracle at St. Anna* is overlong and poorly focused. It tends to meander, the military context is not well established, and too much time is spent on interaction with underdeveloped secondary characters. On the other hand, there are three exceptionally powerful sequences: an event early in the proceedings during which members of the 92nd must face a verbal barrage from propagandist "Axis Sally" as they approach an engagement, a German massacre at a church, and the final battle against improbable odds. There's enough energy in those scenes to indicate what *Miracle at St. Anna* could have been. Because of the subject matter, it's impossible not to admire what Lee has created here, and the evident passion with which it has been brought to the screen. However, the realization is flawed, and those flaws make this 160-minute epic feel a little too much like an ordeal.

## Miss Julie: A grand start to the Mainstage Season

By Samantha Sembler  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Kicking off this year's Mainstage Theatre season is August Strindberg's powerful work *Miss Julie*, as directed by senior directing major Brendon Votipka '09, who calls this play a "raucous clash of carnal desire and social power."

Strindberg's play tells us the story of a young noblewoman who wrestles with the strains put upon her by the conditions of her social class and gender.

All of the action occurs on Midsummer Eve, a night marked for its wild antics, when Miss Julie tests the boundaries of her status by flirting with her valet Jean, despite his involvement with her cook Kristine. As day breaks, Jean and Julie see the repercussions of their actions, leading to a powerful climax. Votipka '09 says, "This play is all about action. There is sex, and there is bloodshed. It vibrates."

Strindberg's skill with psychological dilemma helps create works that are emotionally striking for audiences. "It's incredibly sexy, powerful, and scary. It's more intense and live than most of our daily entertainment."

Indeed, the intimacy of the Studio theatre will provide an elevated experience for the audience member who wants to feel the emotional tensions of the characters.

For those of you new to campus or

who have not frequented the theatre performances on campus, *Miss Julie* would provide an excellent opportunity to start.

This work provides three of the juiciest characters for an actor to bite into, making it a special opportunity for any student to be involved in. *Julie* is considered one of the most complex female roles in the theatre, and Votipka says that Jessica Alex '09 "rises to the occasion."

Danny Ryan '09 portrays the wily Jean and the bold Kristine is played by Denise Ozer '10.

These three actors are complimented by a chorus of servants and live music, provided by Steven Finkelstein and Sam Swan. Along with Votipka as director, the production is stage managed by Rael Linder '11 and the lighting design was done by Kristin Marchese '09.

One unique aspect of this production is that the college offers a student director an opportunity like this. Few other colleges allow student directors to put on such intense, timeless works with the support of the full resources of a theatre department. It is impressive for a production of this nature to be put on in such a short amount of time.

This powerful, visceral performance is one that should not be missed. Tickets are selling quickly, so be sure to pick one up today.

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## Sports Schedule

### Field Hockey

Sat., Oct. 4 at Dickinson, 12:00  
Tue. Oct. 7 vs. Bryn Mawr, 7:30

### Women's Soccer

Sat., Oct. 4 at Dickinson, 2:30  
Tue., Oct. 7 vs. Moravian, 4:00

### Volleyball

Sat., Oct. 4 at Dickinson, 1:00  
Tue., Oct. 7 at Swarthmore, 7:00  
Thurs., Oct. 9 vs. Washington (Md.), 7:00

### Football

Sat., Oct. 4 at Johns Hopkins, 1:00

### Men's Soccer

Sat., Oct. 4 at Johns Hopkins, 7:30  
Wed., Oct. 8 at DeSales, 3:30

# Beyond the bleachers: with Michael-Lee Teslak

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

I recently sat down with Philadelphia Phantoms' goalie Michael-Lee Teslak. Teslak is a student of Michigan Tech, and attended the Philadelphia Flyers' rookie conditioning camp in the summer, where I saw him play for the first time.

I was extremely impressed with his skill and style, and went on a search to find him. I finally got a hold of him, and am proud to bring you this interview with the goalie of the Philadelphia Phantoms!

**A: How did you get into hockey in the first place, and when was it?**

Michael-Lee Teslak: I was about five or six years old and all my friends were doing it so I wanted to.

**A: When was your first NHL game that you attended?**

MLT: When I was about nine, I think, our minor hockey team went together. It was in Calgary and they were playing to New Jersey Devils.

**A: Did you ever play any other position other than goalie?**

MLT: When I first started I played all positions. Even as I got a bit older I'd be a player from time to time but when hockey started getting serious, I began playing goal all the time.

**A: What do you think are advantages and disadvantages of being a goalie as opposed to another position in hockey?**

MLT: It's either hero or zero. I'm someone who likes the pressure and the one put in the situation to come up big. When you come up on the better end there's no better feeling but when you come up on the other end it can be tough to take.

**A: What made you turn to Michigan Tech to attend college?**

MLT: I was going to get a chance to start as a freshman where other places I probably wouldn't have. Also, they were the first team to contact me and I respected that. The two coaches at the time were very good to me and made it an easy decision. I made a very good decision going to Tech.

**A: You majored in Business Administration in college...are you planning on going into a business career after your hockey career?**

MLT: That all depends on how my career goes. Right now I plan on just being able to make a living playing hockey but if that does fall short I imagine I'll go back and finish my degree in business.

**A: What does it mean to you to be a member of the Flyers' organization?**

MLT: It's a real honor. When making the decision to join this organization I heard nothing but good things and when I finally did arrive here in Philadelphia I learned quick that it is a very good organization to be a part of with lots of tradition.

**A: How do you think you performed at Flyers' Rookie Conditioning Camp?**

MLT: Rookie camp was the first real practices I have had since last season. I feel like I started off slow but felt like with a couple of ice sessions I started coming around. I still have to step it up a lot though.

**A: What are your goals for this coming hockey season?**

MLT: Play well every night and be considered one of the top goaltenders in the American League. With playing well so soon I feel like it will give the organization confidence in me and give them options and may consider me a position on the Flyers in the near future.

**A: What do you think is the best part of your game?**

MLT: I think that I have a very good mental game. But with that when I get away from being confident my mental game can easily make me struggle.

**A: What part of your game do you need to work on the most?**

MLT: I think right now my positioning isn't to where it has been in the past. I'm hoping that with some more practices from now until season starts that it'll correct itself.

**A: Who is your favorite current NHLer and all time NHLer?**

MLT: Growing up I was a Canucks fan. I really liked Pavel Bure and Markus Naslund. For goalie my favorite was Hasek before he retired the first time.

**A: When do you think you will be able to challenge for a spot on the Flyers' roster, especially with Antero Niittymaki now out for at least a month?**

MLT: I think that if I'm playing well during the season and the Flyers need a goaltender to come up for a period of time I think that I could maybe get that opportunity. With Niittymaki getting hurt I don't think that will really have an effect on where I'll be. I still need to prove myself. All I can control is how well I play. The other stuff I just have to let happen.

A: Thanks, Mike.

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# USC, Georgia, and Florida all lose as all bets were off last weekend

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Oregon State Beavers.

The Trojans had not played since stomping then #5 Ohio State, 35-3. The Beavers were thought to have no shot at winning this game as they had only won one game so far and had been destroyed by Penn State, 45-14, earlier this season. However, Oregon State, who upset USC two seasons ago, road a 5'6" freshman to victory. Jacquizz Rodgers ran the ball thirty seven times for 186 yards and two touchdowns as the Beavers stunned the country with a 27-21 victory.

The next giant to fall was the Florida Gators. Florida lost to unranked Mississippi 31-30 and it came thanks to a blocked extra point with three minutes left in the game. Ole Miss trailed 17-7 at halftime but outscored the Gators 21-0 in the third quarter, as the Rebels were able to pull off the huge upset.

The game of the weekend was suppose to be #3 Georgia at #8 Alabama but that did not prove to be the case. The Crimson Tide absolutely dominated Georgia in the first half as they cruised to a 41-30 win. Even though the Bulldogs wore their black jerseys for just the third time in school histo-

ry, Bama's quarterback John Parker Wilson lead the Tide to a 31-0 halftime lead which proved to be way too much for Georgia to overcome.

With all the losses, Oklahoma moved up to #1, Alabama jumped to #2, and Penn State moved to #6 after their 38-24 win over then #22 Illinois.

After this past weekend, are there anymore curveballs we can expect college football to throw our way? If last year proved anything, we ain't seen nothing yet.

This weekend has some good games on tap starting in, where else, the SEC. We will see if #19 Vanderbilt is the real deal as they take on #13 Auburn at 6 p.m. on ESPN. There are two big match-ups that will take place at 8 p.m. First, #9 USC will try to get back on track as they host #23 Oregon on ABC and also at 8 p.m., #14 Ohio State will travel to Madison, Wisconsin to take on the #18 Badgers.

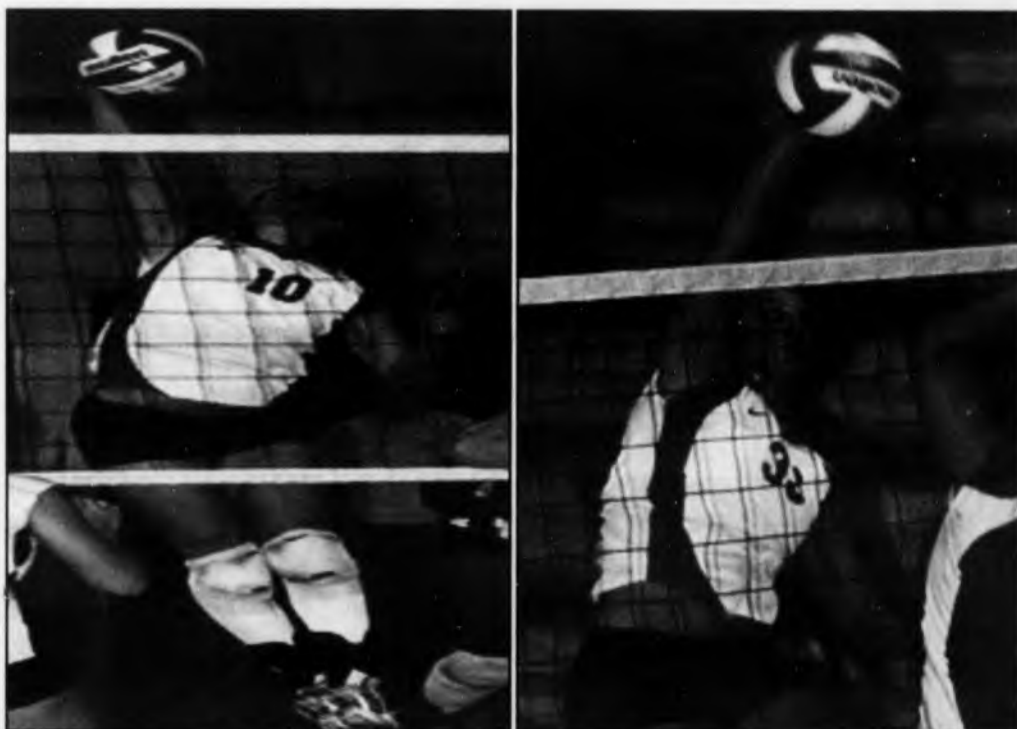
The team that should be on Upset Alert this weekend is #4 Missouri. Led by Chase Daniel, the Tigers haven't been tested since they played Illinois in August and now they travel to the always hostile Memorial Stadium to take on Nebraska. And you know the Cornhuskers would love nothing more than to ruin the Tigers season and avenge their 41-6 loss to Mizzou a year ago.

## Lady Mules Volleyball fall in a close one

By Daniel Wayne  
SPORTS EDITOR

Last Wed. the Lady Mules Volleyball team (11-5, 1-1) put their three-game winning streak on the line when they hosted Johns Hopkins (13-4, 1-0) in Memorial Hall. While the end of the match went the Blue Jays' way, 'Berg fought hard and only loss by five, four, and five points respectively per game.

Shining in the loss was senior captain Megan Eiser who recorded nineteen assists. Also producing for her team was freshman Davi Gordon. She ended the game with six kills and three blocks.



Left: Freshman Davi Gordon goes up for a kill. Right: Captain junior Brittany Williams gives it to the opposition.

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# With "The Animal" unleashed, the Mules make it four straight

By Daniel Wayne  
SPORTS EDITOR

After relying on senior captain Billy Dalton's two goals in Wed.'s 2-0 victory over the Elizabethtown Blue Jays (3-4-1), the Men's Soccer Mules (6-2, 2-0) focused their attention to Centennial Conference rival, the Gettysburg Bullets (4-3-2, 1-1).

In Sat.'s match-up against the Bullets, the Mules controlled almost all aspects of the game. 'Berg's defense held the men from Gettysburg to no corner kicks, an astonishing feat, while the offense recorded an amazing nine of their own. As a result of these opportunities, the Mules got off thirteen shots, five of them on goal and three of them made it to the back of the net.

The driving force behind this offensive barrage was senior midfielder Steve Tenenzapf. Known to his teammates and fans as "The Animal," Tenenzapf displayed his incredible work ethic and was rewarded with his first two goals of the season.

"He has been working really hard and it's great to see it pay off and for him to get some goals," says head coach Sean Topping of his unbridled "Animal." "He put their defense under pressure the entire game and that's great."

The first of his scores came at the fifteen minute mark of the game. After

running full speed down the side of the field, "The Animal" took sophomore defenseman Matt Cecconi's crossing pass and one-timed it past diving Gettysburg goalie Adam Finkel.

"The Animal's" second goal came less than thirty seconds into the second half. Off another Cecconi cross, Tenenzapf gave the Mules a security goal as he put the ball just out of the reach of the Bullets' goalie once again.

"We work on getting our backs up the field and into the attack. Matt [Cecconi] is very dangerous coming out of the backfield," said Topping as he explained and complimented the leading points producer for his defense.

With this second goal, 'Berg was situated for the win, but by no means were they letting up from their aggressive style of play. Coming with four minutes left in the game, freshman forward Cody Antonini took "The Animal's" pass and lofted the ball perfectly over the head of a bedazzled Bullet's goalie. This goal, Antonini's third in four games, all but ended the game and cemented another victory for the Mules.

As a result of their outstanding play, Tenenzapf and Cecconi were given the C.C. Offensive and Defensive Players of the Week awards.

The Mules' next games are at Dickinson on Wed. and at Johns Hopkins on Sat.



Left: Senior midfielder Billy Dalton scored two goals against Elizabeth. Middle: C.C. Offensive Player of the Week "The Animal" scores twice. Right: C.C. Defensive Player of the Week sophomore Matt Cecconi.

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## S P O R T S

Inside: Men's  
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# Mules stop the Bullets and cruise to a 42-21 victory

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

During Homecoming weekend and in front of many alumni, the Mules (3-0) were able to slow down the high powered Gettysburg (0-4) offense, which came into the game averaging a Centennial Conference best 436 yards per game, and won by three touchdowns.

Muhlenberg got off to a quick start as the defense forced a three-and-out and senior Brandon Doyle returned the Gettysburg punt to the Bullets' 24 yard line. On the first play from scrimmage, senior running back John DeLuca found the endzone on a 24-yard scamper. With only 1:25 off the clock, the Mules were already up 7-0, a lead they would never relinquish. Both defenses held strong most of the half, until senior quarterback Eric Santagato hit senior running back Erik Snyder on a 19-yard touchdown pass. DeLuca would find the endzone again just before the end of the half to give the Mules a 21-0 lead as they headed into the locker rooms.

Gettysburg made some halftime adjustments to try to stop DeLuca, who ran for 134 yards and two touchdowns on the day. Fortunately, that opened up the field for Santagato and his receivers. As the third quarter was coming to a close, Santagato found senior wide receiver Edward DeRisi on a 19-yard touchdown pass to give the Mules a 28-7 lead after three quarters.

After the Bullets cut the lead to 28-14, Santagato connected with junior wide receiver Phil Cresta for two touchdown passes of thirty-three and thirty-five yards respectively, to give the Mules a 42-21 victory. With the win the Mules have now won fourteen straight regular season games, which ranks second best in Centennial Conference history.

Santagato finished the day with 275 passing yards and four touchdowns. Cresta had eight catches for 128 yards and two touchdowns, which earned him Centennial Conference Offensive Player of the Week honors. DeRisi had a career high five catches for 49 yards and a touchdown. The defense played great as well. Junior defensive end Frank Emmett had seven tackles, including two for loss of yards, and senior linebacker Matt Rathbun had an interception for the second straight game.

The Mules, who are currently ranked fifth in the nation, head down to Baltimore, MD to take on Johns Hopkins (3-0) at 1 pm on Sat. "We knew Hopkins was going to be one of the better teams in the Conference this year," said senior safety Dave Mazzola. Led by junior running back Andrew Kase, 111.3 yards per game, the Blue Jays will be the Mules' toughest game to date. "He's one of the best running backs in the Conference and because of him, they are the team to beat this year," stated Mazzola.



Left: Junior receiver Phil Cresta catches one of his two touchdown passes on the day. Right: Sophomore linebacker Scott Lissner takes down a Bullet on a kickoff return.

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 6

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2008

# “What Matters and Why?”

## The 2008 election

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

On Mon., Oct. 20, the Center for Ethics, along with co-hosts the Lectures and Forums Committee and the Department of Political Science, hosted a panel of experts on the topic of “Politics, Ethics & Citizenship in 2008: What Matters and Why? A Panel of Experts Responds.” The event was host to three prestigious professors of different disciplinary perspectives, each of whom were given fifteen minutes to express their views on the subject in relation to their areas of expertise.

First on the panel was Dr. Lisa Bowleg, a psychologist and public policy specialist. Dr. Bowleg received her Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology and M.A. in Public Policy from George Washington University, where her concentration was in Women’s Studies. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Community Health and Prevention at Drexel University, and has done research on minorities’ issues surrounding the African-American and LGBT community.

In her speech, Dr. Bowleg focused on three key issues that fall under the umbrella of HIV risk in African Americans; the government’s promotion of abstinence-only programs, the syringe exchange program, and funding for the National Institutes of Health. Each of these issues related back to politics in the control that the govern-

ment has over them due to funding. As a social psychologist, Dr. Bowleg followed her presentation of these issues with the question of what should govern research and politics in the realm of public health.

In regards to the topic, “what matters and why?” Dr. Bowleg concluded her speech by saying that what matters in this election is choosing a president who will address AIDS across the world with specific plans, thereby showing her support for Senator Obama and his plan to address disparity, offer housing for people with AIDS, and promote HIV prevention. Senator McCain, she acknowledged, does not have a specific plan similar to Obama’s at this time.

Dr. Sidney Milkis was next to speak on the panel. He began with a short anecdote about his wife, whom he first met in Seeger’s Union over thirty years ago. Dr. Milkis graduated from the College in 1972, and was excited this past week to return to campus. He is a political scientist and a professor in the Department of Politics at the University of Virginia. After his years at the College, Dr. Milkis attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he received his Ph.D. in Political Science.

His talk for the panel regarded the intense partisanship that is present in this election. He acknowledged his belief that this election is “the most interesting and important of [his] lifetime,” possibly since that of Franklin Roosevelt, which

resulted in his implementation of the New Deal. Dr. Milkis stated his belief that this election could have the power to initiate the kind of response from the American people that was received in that era, as it gives voters to opportunity to make a critical choice about the direction and future of this country.

A strong signal of this, Dr. Milkis said, is partisan polarization. Regardless of the outcome of the election, the contest between Democrats and Republicans is an extremely important one. Both candidates are promoting the idea that if elected, they will launch a post partisan nation, but Dr. Milkis has his doubts. The overwhelmingly strong differences in the party platform make it unlikely that after such a partisan election, either candidate will be able to win over all of the opposing party.

These party platforms, Milkis explained, begin with their separate declarations of freedoms. The Democratic Party celebrates freedom from want and places a focus on healthcare, while the Republican Party celebrates freedom from fear and thus focuses on national security and a strong “Commander in Chief.” These key differences have lead to the strong and separate opinions that the American people have today.

Milkis concluded that, while entrance into a post partisan era is unlikely, it is also impractic-

SEE PARTISANSHIP | PAGE 6

# Representative Charlie Dent sheds light on Middle East politics

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Tue., Oct. 14, the College Republicans and Mules United for Israel (MUFI) arranged for Republican Representative Charlie Dent to speak at the College regarding the significance of the U.S.-Israel relationship. Mr. Dent represents Pennsylvania’s 15th district which encompasses the Lehigh Valley, including Muhlenberg College.

Currently, he is involved in a bitter battle with Democratic candidate Sam Bennett for his House seat. With so many out-of-state stu-

dents changing their voter registrations to Pennsylvania, his appearance at the College was also an opportunity to gain some undecided voters’ votes.

After being introduced by active MUFI member, Tom Holtz ’09, Dent spent roughly fifteen minutes to hit on some topics that he felt were important for Muhlenberg students to understand. The one topic Mr. Dent spoke of the most was the relationship between Israel and the United States. Having visited Israel twice since being elected Representative in 2005, he is a steadfast supporter of Israel.

He underscored the importance of

the U.S.-Israel relationship by saying “Our relationship with Israel is one that really transcends through the political parties.” Mr. Dent stated that he supports all foreign aid given to Israel by the U.S. including military equipment and technology. “The continued relationship between Israel and us is one that we must maintain at all costs.” These powerful words brought comfort to the supporters of Israel in the crowd.

After Congressman Dent gave his short speech, he opened the room up for questions. When asked how other members of congress view the U.S.-Israel relationship, he said

“Most of congress, in general, is very supportive of Israel.” He lamented the fact that a minority of congress members, particularly fellow republican Ron Paul, do not support the foreign aid given to Israel. When asked if he felt the current amount of aid given to Israel is enough, Mr. Dent agreed that the U.S. is providing enough and even went so far as to explain how Israel spends the money given by the U.S. One subject that came up a number of times in the question and answer forum was the

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THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares Editor-in-Chief

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Letter to the Editor

Caring College?

We found it sadly ironic that in this week's issue, we have two conflicting examples of how the Muhlenberg community treats their own.

The other letter is from President Helm who wrote about how a minority of students sometimes forgets about the idea of Muhlenberg as a "Caring College" and how, as a result, the surrounding Allentown area has suffered over the past few weeks.

How can we come together for a fellow student, but not care about our neighbors? Allentown is their town too.

We wonder how the same college and the same students who keep Jacy in their hopes and prayers can sit idly by as their peers hurt others.

One of us signed President Helm's letter to represent The Weekly as a whole and the fact that we agree with him. We would like the College and our fellow students to be remembered as the ones who prayed for another and who were sincerely concerned for her well-being.

Muhlenberg has earned the nickname the caring college. And while I always believed it while I was there, it wasn't until I graduated and left that I really understood what it meant.

Neither one of my parents survived the crash, and the doctors did not expect me to make it past the first thirty-six hours. And if I did, they didn't think I'd be able to keep my badly damaged foot.

I never could have made it through all the difficult times in my four months in the hospital without the visits, cards, emails, and Facebook notes from my Muhlenberg family.

I moved home on September 19 and I'm currently participating in outpatient therapy twice a week. I'm trying to get my body and mind back as normal as they were before.

Thank you, Muhlenberg

Jacy Good Class of 2008

Politics: how far is too far?

By Rebecca Sachs WEEKLY WRITER

Have you been in the bookstore lately? Not Muhlenberg's, but any other chain bookstore? If you haven't, do yourself a favor: go to the children's section with your eyes peeled.

Listen. I'm all for trying to get the younger people of this country involved in politics, Active participation in the current election is important.

Why impose duties and opinions upon children who won't be able to vote for at least another ten years? These books are disguises for the manipulation of the young minds of America; children believe that they are just enjoying a nice picture book.

Essentially it's propaganda. How could authors, publishers, even parents allow politics to invade and disrupt what is the essence of a child? Innocence is what we strive for.

When looking at what these are about, these publications' implications are all the more absurd. "My Dad, John McCain" (which hap-

pens to be written by his daughter, Meghan McCain) is a biography of his life. Meghan chronicles her father's prisoner of war story through his "raising a large, happy family." It's utterly exploitative! But after portraying her father as a hero and the perfect father and husband, how could a five-year-old not vote for McCain!

Wait...huh? "Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope" written by Nikki Grimes, is also a biography. What is perhaps the most alarming aspect of this book is its cover, complete with an illustration of the ever-present strong-willed Obama shadowing the younger Obama laughing while frolicking amongst a sandcastle.

The illusion of the sandcastle, along with both versions of Obama, is literally illustrating his rise to riches in a propagandistic manner.

This is the beginning of the warring of different views, Republican and Democratic, and at this age. And at what cost? How will this affect the minds of the younger generation? How much is too much? Is using the stories of these men to build an image in order to help them win going over board?

These are stories that many others have experienced, yet don't use to their advantage. How noble are these men? What are the ethics of politics? Is this what we want the children of this country to see? Their minds are already being manipulated, and they don't even know it. They don't understand it. How is that okay?

That is a children's book about Barack Obama. And right next to it - that is yet another children's book. That one is about John McCain

Why impose duties and opinions upon children who won't be able to vote for at least another ten years?

Essentially, it's propaganda. How could authors, publishers, even parents allow politics to invade and disrupt what is the essence of being a child?



# Obama favored to be the next president



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

You never want to be overly confident about the outcome of anything in life. You certainly never want to be overly confident in a Democrat running against a war hero Republican. Yet, when John McCain appears on Fox News to do an interview and the first question posed to him is, "Aren't you in a world of trouble?" you know things are looking up for Barack Obama and his campaign. All three

Presidential debates are in the books, with McCain failing to do anything except look like an angry, desperate old man who is jealous of the attention his rival is receiving.

Obama's campaign is raising historic amounts of money, he is doing well in traditionally Republican dominated areas of the country, and if the election were tomorrow, all the polls indicate he would land a victory. However, the election is still a few weeks away and many things can still change. Even if the polls don't show any major shifts, anything can happen and most still expect this to be a very close race.

When arguing with some of my friends who are McCain supporters, they often bring up the notion that most of the polls are irrelevant and that on Election Day people will hesitate to vote for somebody named Barack Obama over somebody named John McCain. Despite this viewpoint, which could be relevant in certain places (we would be

are in the kidding ourselves if we acted like there still weren't racist issues existing in this country) you still have to love Obama's chances on Nov. 4th.

*Even if the polls don't show any major shifts, anything can happen and most still expect this to be a very close race.*

There is no denying the fact that John McCain has run a weak campaign. As the percentage points of their deficit began growing, the Republicans decided to

go negative in order to close the gap. Unfortunately for them, people in America don't care about Obama's weak ties to William Ayers or the ACORN voting scandal. They can't swift-boat Obama out of this election. Americans are seeing their economy crumble around them, while they are still at war. There is no audience for the McCain smear campaign on Obama.

Regardless of what John McCain states, Obama has kept his campaign more focused on the issues than on attacking McCain's past. I

am obviously not saying that Obama has not ran his share of negative ads, but over the past month McCain has surpassed him with the negativity on the campaign trail. Obama did a good job in the last debate of answering the questions John McCain posed about his past, and then turning the focus back to the issues that voters care about.

John McCain is a Republican at the wrong time. He can't distance himself enough from his ninety percent voting record with the most unpopular President in the history of the United States.

Further working against him is the well-organized, money-raising machine Barack Obama's campaign has been.

We have seen crazier things happen on Election Day and the Democrats did find a way to lose in 2004, so nothing is certain, but Barack Obama is the clear favorite right now to be the next President of the United States.

*Americans are seeing their economy crumble around them, while they are still at war. There is no audience for the McCain smear campaign on Obama.*

## A case for student power

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY WRITER

At colleges speckled all over our country, young minds are awakening to a startling reality that our parents, or at least their generation, were right about struggle, and better off for it. We, on the other hand, are not better off because we follow the path of least resistance. From the impending financial crisis, to indentured servitude by student debt, to the old men's War on Terror fought by teens and 20-somethings, to an overwhelming, propagandized, corporate society at war for our hearts and minds, we are a generation with subcultures that have ceased to steward social change.

Keffiyehs are sexy, sold at the malls. Peace signs are embroidered next to buttons for presidential candidates of war. Hipsters don't dig talking about militarism like their hippie ancestors. Marketing executives make millions from the circle-A for anarchy. Our music is corporate, we consume culture, and we feel obliged to validate a system of oppression for which we are the raw materials; everything by their calendar.

But students have not always been subordinated.

Four decades ago, our parents' struggle shook the conscience of our society that set precedence for every student struggle since. They were our age; they had no funding, no parental support, no internet, no Facebook, and no cell phones. Yet, they stopped a war, founded universities, championed civil rights, practiced environmentalism, revived feminism, halted nuclear energy expansion, ended apartheid, and desegregated their campuses. Working class, women, and students of color wrote the most prolific radical works and songs in the last half century, and not by text message. They became political prisoners and exiles. They demanded change "by all

*Working class, women, and students of color wrote the most prolific radical works and songs in the last half century, and not by text message.*

SEE POWER  
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### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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# What Jennifer Mann would do

By Sara Beitman  
OP/ED EDITOR

I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Pennsylvania State

Representative Jennifer Mann at a College Democrats meeting. We discussed her opinions of what should be done to improve life in Pennsylvania. Jennifer Mann, who is on the Muhlenberg Board of Associates, has been a State Representative since 1998, and is running for re-election on Nov. 4.

When asked why she is a Democrat, Mann said, "Republicans believe in personal responsibility, and that's it. Democrats believe in personal responsibility, but also the sense of obligation to public service, and to help their community. Only four percent of the country is on public assistance or welfare" [when thousands more impoverished people need to be].

Mann said it is important that Muhlenberg students vote in Pennsylvania (because it is a swing state). She said our students should contribute and engage in the Allentown community; then maybe they will find a reason to stay here, like she did.

Jennifer Mann said that people should vote for her because of her dedication to improving education, and finding alternative fuels. Mann has made education a priority. She increased funding for kindergarten, through twelfth grade, and she added new technologies to most classrooms in our area. Mann also wants to give incentives to people who use alternative fuels, and wants to invest six hundred and fifty million dollars into finding other sources of energy.

Representative Mann wants to get funding to help insure two hundred and seventy thousand Pennsylvanians who can't afford health insurance. Mann told me that she wants to get health care for all children and all adults who do not receive healthcare from their employers. Mann also wants to make health care, including more doctors and nurses, more accessible to people living in rural Pennsylvania.

When asked about the economic crisis and its impact on Pennsylvania, Mann said that the situation has affected everyone. Revenues are down, and employment is up. It will be a very challenging budget to make, but Mann wants to give assistance to first-time home buyers, she wants to spend one hundred million dollars on creating new jobs, and will give loans and grants to Pennsylvania residents going to college.

On Nov. 4, remember that Jennifer Mann wants to make our local government raise the quality of life in Allentown for all people, with her policies on education, alternative fuels, health care, and our economy.

*Vote Jennifer Mann  
for State  
Representative!*

# Two sports, different crowds

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY WRITER

At the candidate forum for the student body elections a couple of Wednesdays ago, one of the prospective freshman representatives told us that we needed more school spirit at our

football games. As someone who goes out of his way to see sporting events, I somewhat doubted this, as the crowd that we had against Wilkes was pretty loud. That Saturday was the homecoming game, and I realized that he was right. For a stadium that was packed on both sides with people from both schools, the place was quite dead in the bleachers where the Muhlenberg fans were (though, thankfully, we were about as loud as the Gettysburg fans on the other side of the field).

Though the people got louder in the fourth quarter when we were already wiping the floor with the Bullets, I reached into my memory and remembered how sedate the fans were compared to last year. At every home game that I went to last season - especially the playoff game that we hosted - the crowd was constantly cheering, stomping their feet, and yelling. During this game, I moved around the bleachers with some of my loud friends, and I felt like I was an outcast because I dared to show my school spirit with them. Admittedly, I did accidentally spit on one girl's face while attempting to get the crowd fired up, but isn't watching sports about showing support for your team?

At the candidate forum, that same person also said how the people who watch our men's soccer team home games were loud and very supportive. This has always been the case since I got here. The bleachers are loud and cheery when we score a goal or make a nice play, but the real fans are in the roped section on the other side of the field. It's the same crowd during every home game, and we taunt the other team and their players (not to mention their mothers) on a constant basis. We're so rowdy that two campus safety officers have to keep us in line, so we can't be as vicious as we like. Still, I'm sure that no one likes to be at the mercy of the rowdies of Varsity Field.

The homecoming men's soccer game, also against Gettysburg, was a completely different sight from the quiet football game. There were more people packed behind the rope, and they were as loud as they were during any game. Somebody brought a drum to pound on, and another had a megaphone to shout into. However, we went above and beyond just that - one fan had his face painted like a soccer ball, and people were handing out sheets with the names of the Gettysburg players' moms so we could make fun of them. They were dedicated, to say the least.

That's not something I can say about the people who watch our football games. There's idle chatter going on here or there making it seem like those who came out to watch our football team that homecoming Saturday were there to socialize first and cheer the team on second. I'm not denying that games are great to watch with your friends, but show some spirit on the side. At the very least, don't make the people trying to get the home crowd pumped up feel like jerks for doing so.

I haven't even gotten to how good our teams are yet. Our soccer team, as I write this, is sixth in the Mid-Atlantic region in Division III (I'm a stats geek; I check this stuff out all the time). With all due respect to our awesome soccer team, our football team is ranked fifth in the nation in two separate polls, and barring a loss against Johns Hopkins, we'll still be there as you read this. It's somewhat embarrassing that one of the great teams in the country doesn't have fans of the same caliber. So for all of you people who want to see some football, try and get into the spirit and make it a welcoming place for everyone to get excited.

*It's the same crowd during every home game, and we taunt the other team and their players (not to mention their mothers) on a constant basis.*

## POWER

FROM PAGE 3

means necessary," the major party conventions. Freedom is not answer is to transform the relationships of power in our society so that young people are both participating in decision-making that directly affects us and coercing decision-makers to realize our capacity to non-cooperate, an awkward English translation of Gandhi's "satyagraha," meaning "firmness of truth." We'll call it "student power," we'll call it "collective liberation."

which meant more allowing the College administrators and faculty to redesign our majors for us, raise our tuition six percent every year without consent, and oppress minority groups like Theta Nu Xi, working class, multi-cultural women from doing self-liberating work on campus.

than just  
choosing the name we address our letters to when we're angry.  
Their generation's thirst for participatory freedom is our generation's aptitude for complacency. In exchange for devout consumerism, we have forfeited our basic rights and freedoms to decision makers who seek to strip our influence from us on every level, personally and internally within ourselves.  
I assert that "freedom is participation in power" according to the Roman philosopher Cicero. Freedom is both consent and dissent. Freedom is both cooperation and noncooperation. Freedom, perhaps, is better defined today by what it is not. Freedom is not a free speech cage. Freedom is not the National Guard tear gassing peaceably assembled protesters outside of

*Freedom is both consent and dissent.  
Freedom is both cooperation and noncooperation.*

We have been "tokenized" on faculty academic committees that are closed to the College community, sought out as insurance against insurrection, subjects of their curriculum power experiment. Even Student Council has been sequestered into predominately a party planning and student club ATM. What happened to defending consent "by all means necessary?"  
But these grievances are not the answer. The

*In exchange for devout consumerism, we have forfeited our basic rights and freedoms to decision makers.*

We must realize that we do not have it better off than our parents. We have been jaded by our rulers into believing that every generation improves upon the gains of those before, that more widgets, more websites, means we're free. That is simply not true today, and there is no one to blame but us. Today we will rise, as students united. Every day I can hear more and more of us say that we want something better, so let's build it ourselves! Who are we waiting for?



October 23, 2008

Dear Muhlenberg Students,

We write out of a shared concern about our community and how the behavior of a small minority is affecting the quality of life for all of us who share this campus and live in our neighborhood.

Here are some of the problems we have been experiencing:

- This semester has started with an astonishing spike in alcohol abuse. Recent weeks have been characterized by a dramatic increase in hospital transports for students who have abused alcohol (17 as of this writing, compared to 6 at this time last year) and citations for alcohol violations (27, compared to 8 at this time last year). Some of these students' lives have been in jeopardy. Some have been placed on involuntary medical leave because of repeated incidents or a refusal to understand the seriousness of their problem.
- There has been a serious increase in the number of complaints filed with Campus Safety, the Allentown Police, and the Allentown Mayor's office by neighbors on the eastern side of campus because of inconsiderate student behavior - loud parties at off-campus houses and MILE properties, students cutting through neighbors' yards, urinating and vomiting in neighbors' yards, shouting obscenities late at night, and other unacceptable activities. Most of this behavior seems alcohol-related.
- There has been a shocking amount of litter - plastic cups, bottles, cans, and other debris, piling up in allies, gutters, and yards throughout the neighborhood. Jeff Demko and our overworked grounds crew have had to tackle this clean-up, taking them away from their important responsibilities maintaining our campus.

To give you an idea of the extent of some of this vandalism, we'd like you to know just some of what took place this past weekend. On Saturday morning, Plant Operations found two trash and ash containers, one from 2201 Chew Street and one from Roberston Hall, turned over on their side, with contents from both containers dumped on the ground. These containers weigh 600 pounds each.

Plant Operations personnel also collected eight 5-gallon buckets of plastic cups, beer bottles, cans, and other trash in the alleys, lawns and streets in the Liberty Street/Leh Street/22nd Street area. A tree branch was broken off on the east side of Seegers Union; a barricade was taken apart and thrown around outside the Chapel; and sand was removed from the cigarette butt container at the Village.

On Sunday morning, another tree branch was broken off at 2147 Chew Street. Plant Ops collected twelve 5-gallon buckets of plastic cups, beer bottles, cans, and other trash in the alleys, lawns and streets in the Liberty Street/Leh Street/22nd Street area. A barricade was taken from the Chapel and set up on Chew Street, which blocked a city ambulance and a police cruiser responding to an emergency call.

We are proud to call ourselves a "caring community." We realize that "caring" includes not only ourselves and our friends, but also extends to our neighbors and those who work hard to keep our College safe and attractive. We think it is important to remember that we share this neighborhood with all sorts of families, including the elderly and families with young children, for whom disrupted sleep, damaged property, and extra litter are a real hardship.

We believe that the overwhelming majority of students share our disappointment and disapproval of those members of our community who show such blatant disrespect for themselves, for our neighborhood, and for our values. We call on this majority - along with faculty, staff, and other members of our community - to join us in speaking up to the irresponsible few whose behavior is compromising our quality of life and that of our neighbors, and jeopardizing their own health and well-being. It's time for those who like to party to remember that excessive drinking, noise, and litter are unhealthy, unsafe, anti-social, and immature.

We are better than this. We need to live our values.

Sincerely,

- |   |  |   |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| <br>Randy Helm<br>President   | <br>Sara Keller<br>President, Student Government                 | <br>Karen Green<br>Dean of Students                         | <br>Marjorie Hass<br>Provost  | <br>Sam Beidleman<br>Director of Athletics                                  | <br>Peter Bredlau<br>College Chaplain  |
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| <br>Richard Beghe<br>Ass't Dir., Plant Operations   | <br>Megan Eddinger<br>Head Coach, Field Hockey                   | <br>Samantha Hoffman<br>Co-Captain, Women's Soccer          | <br>Christopher J. MacIntosh<br>Captain, Men's Basketball                   | <br>Ray Ramella<br>Athletics Business/Facility<br>Manager                   | <br>Catherine Souza<br>Tour Guide Coordinator  |
| <br>Chris Bissinger<br>Head Coach, Men's Lacrosse   | <br>Phillip Ellmore<br>Interim VP for Development                | <br>Chris Hooker-Haring<br>Dean of Admission                | <br>David Madeira<br>Head Coach, Men's Basketball                           | <br>Arthur Raymond, Chair,<br>Accounting/ Business/<br>Economics Department | <br>Anne W. Speck<br>VP for Human Resources  |
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| <br>Michael Carbone<br>Chair, Education Department  | <br>Jason Feiertag<br>Assistant Treasurer                        | <br>Leslie Kiernan<br>Head Coach, Women's Soccer            | <br>David Mazzola<br>Co-Captain, Football                                   | <br>Eric Santagato<br>Co-Captain, Football                                  | <br>Stuart Udis<br>Co-Captain, Track & Field   |
| <br>David Chorney<br>Co-Captain, Cross Country and<br>Track & Field                           | <br>Valon Ferrigno<br>Co-Captain, Softball                       | <br>Jeff Knarr<br>Assistant Coach, Football                 | <br>Amanda McGovern<br>Co-Captain, Women's Lacrosse                         | <br>Karen Schall<br>Assistant Registrar                                     | <br>Jennifer Warmack-Chipman<br>Head Coach, Volleyball   |
| <br>Michelle Consiglio<br>Co-Captain, Field Hockey  | <br>Jane D. Flood<br>Chair, Physics Department                   | <br>Scott J. Kramer<br>Captain, EMS                         | <br>Michael B. Miller, SA<br>Orientation Committee; ΣΦΕ                     | <br>Tom Schleicher<br>Head Coach, Wrestling                                 | <br>Lindsay A. Weiss<br>Assistant Athletic Trainer   |
| <br>William Dalton<br>Co-Captain, Men's Soccer  | <br>Corey Goll<br>Head Coach, Baseball                           | <br>John A. Krivak<br>Roman Catholic Chaplain               | <br>Patti Mittleman<br>Jewish Chaplain; Hillel Dir.                         | <br>Jeffrey Schmitt<br>Head Coach, Men's Tennis                             | <br>Brian Wernick<br>Co-Captain, Men's Tennis  |
| <br>Julie deLaurentis<br>Co-Captain, Field Hockey   | <br>Kasey Hacker<br>Co-Captain, Women's Soccer                   | <br>Gregory Leischner<br>Co-Captain, Men's Soccer           | <br>Tim Murray<br>Co-Captain, Men's Basketball                              | <br>Kristen Seiler<br>Head Coach, Women's<br>Lacrosse                       | <br>Alyson Williams<br>President, Panhellenic Council  |
| <br>Michael Donnelly<br>Head Coach, Football  | <br>Brad Hackett<br>Director, Cross Country and<br>Track & Field | <br>Luanne Linares<br>Editor-in-Chief, Muhlenberg<br>Weekly | <br>Stephen Nemes Jr.<br>Head Athletic Trainer                              | <br>Brittany Williams<br>Co-Captain, Volleyball                             |  |



# In memory

## Anti-hate rally

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Sun., Oct. 12 marked ten years since the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard. In honor of Shepard, the College hosted a community wide rally in Egner Memorial Chapel against hate crimes. The rally included a \$5 suggested donation and a concert that was open to the public.

Shepard was an openly gay student at the University of Wyoming who was brutally attacked on the night of Oct. 6 - Oct. 7, 1998. He died at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, CO, on Oct. 12, from severe head injuries. His murder brought national and international attention to the issue of hate crime legislation at state and federal levels.

The rally's program stated that "Matthew was an optimistic and accepting young man. He always put his family and friends first and had a special gift of relating to almost everyone. He was the type of person that was very approachable and always looked to new challenges. Matthew had a great passion for equality and always stood up for the acceptance of people's differences."

There were many speakers and performers present at the event including a handful of Muhlenberg students. The political leaders in attendance were Pennsylvania State Senator Patrick Browne (R), Lehigh County Commissioner Gloria Hamm (D), Allentown Mayor Ed Pawloski (D), Allentown City Councilwoman Jeanette Eichenwald (D), Allentown Human Relations Commissioner Allyson Diane Hamm and President Helm. Clergy members in attendance were Rev. Beth Goudy from the

Metropolitan Community Church and Rev. Anne Huey.

Three of Matthew's cousins were also in attendance. Muhlenberg student Rachel Kitch '11, who is the Fundraising Chair for the College's Gay Straight Alliance (GSA), Rev. Anne Kitch from the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem, and Dr. James Peck who teaches in the College's department of Theatre and Dance.

Performers included Moe Jerant and the Jamani Drummers, Muhlenberg student and Spoken

*"Matthew had a great passion for equality and always stood up for the acceptance of people's differences."*

Word Artist Ryan Acquotta '09, the College's all-female a cappella group, the Girls Next Door, who sang "Here, There and Everywhere" by the Beatles, B.A.S.I.C. choir sang "Build an Ard" led by Brian Jones and the Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus sang "Bring Him Home" from Les Miserables.

There were also many student activists present including Co-Presidents of the GSA Adrian Shanker '09 and Alex Breiding '11, Board Member of the GSA Ann Hoelscher '11, and the President of Quest at Lafayette Abra Berkowitz,

The rally was both moving and empowering while encouraging students and the community to take action against hate crimes. At the back of the Chapel was a letter to be delivered to Rep. Charlie Dent that all those who attended the rally were strongly encouraged to sign. The letter is to support the passage of federal hate crimes legislation. In the ten years since Matthew's murder, no federal hate crimes legislation has been signed into law.

All of the proceeds from the event went to the Matthew Shepard Foundation to support their "Erase Hate Initiative."

### PARTISANSHIP | FROM PAGE 1

cal. The battle between Republicans and Democrats has allowed the American people their "birthright of citizenship:" to make critical choices for the "political soul" of America.

On the topic of citizenship, Dr. Shelly Wilcox was next to speak. She is a philosopher and a Visiting Professor in the Philosophy Department of San Francisco State University. During the panel, Dr. Wilcox discussed some of the ethical issues in the election, choosing to focus on ones that receive far less attention than the standards of economy and education: the environment and immigration.

In her discussion of the environment, Dr. Wilcox brought up issues such as global warming and endangered species. The moral and ethical issues that arise with our treatment of the environment depend on our views regarding "moral personhood." She explained that we are obliged

to give consideration to all moral persons, but people become stuck on what and who falls into this category.

Dr. Wilcox is a strong believer that animals themselves are also moral persons, and that we therefore need to take care of our environment not only for our own benefit, but for that of the animals we share it with as well.

She continued by mentioning the issue of undocumented immigration, which leads to the question of what gives citizens the right to claim citizenship and its rights in the first place. Dr. Wilcox expressed her belief that a person, regardless of their immigration status, is a part of a society through their efforts in contributing to it.

It is unjust, she explained, for a society that prohibits the full membership and citizenship for

immigrants to continue benefiting from their work.

How do these two issues relate to the upcoming election? Dr. Wilcox stated that along these lines, we should support a candidate who endorses strong environmental platforms and comprehensive immigration reforms. She left her listeners to conclude from that remark which candidate she would be supporting in November.

The panel concluded with a question and answer session in which students and professors in attendance were able to ask further questions of the three speakers, many of which revolved around the current election and the future of our government. Hearing each of their points of view clearly gave our student body more to think about as election day looms closer.

MC  
GUIDE

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  - ⇒ Evening Cook-Off
- Saturday Program Events**
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  - ⇒ Translating Day 1 at Work
  - ⇒ Networking
  - ⇒ Impress Your Supervisors At Dinner
  - ⇒ Love Your 401
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  - ⇒ Alumni Reception
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# GO MULES!

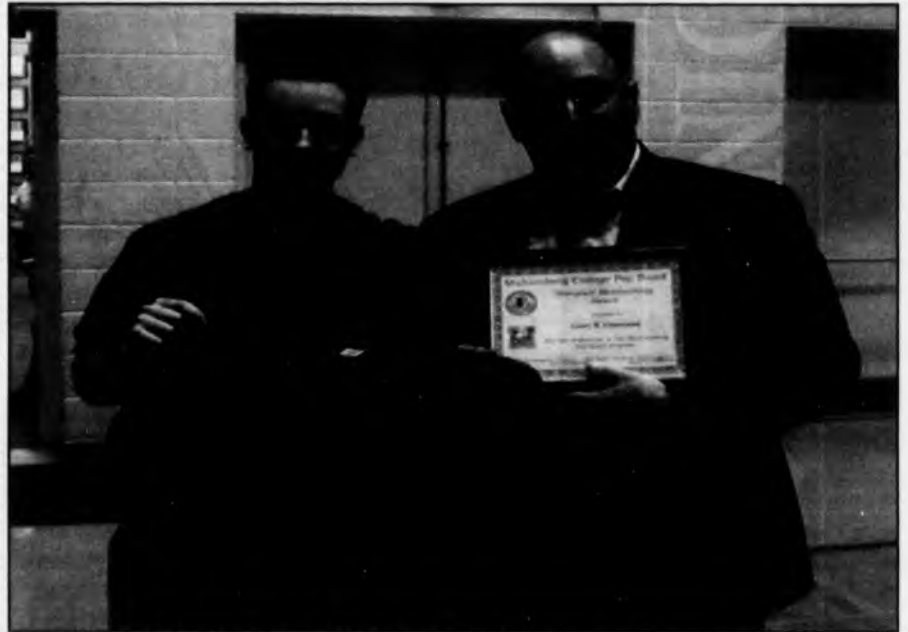
By Matt Fash and Mike Fau  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITERS

The Muhlenberg College Pep Band has been performing since the fall of 2005. The band has grown over the years and has successfully brought back the proud College tradition of having a musical group perform at sporting events to cheer on the home team and add an extra element of excitement and enthusiasm for the crowd.

The Pep Band was not the first band to climb the stands and play for our home team. The College has a rich tradition of Pep Bands. Past members of these bands such as Larry Glazerman, Class of 1972, have purchased shirts and brought back music to keep the band going. This past Homecoming weekend

marked another notable milestone in which the Pep Band was reminded of its past. An alum from the Class of 1961 shared a song that his band sang after every touchdown. When the current band was created, its founders reestablished the fight song, named "Old Gray Bonnet," and now play it at the beginning of every event and after every touchdown or goal is scored. The song that the alum shared was the original Muhlenberg version of "Old Gray Bonnet."

To hear this piece of Muhlenberg history, be sure to stop by an upcoming football game and listen for the Pep Band. For more information about the band, e-mail [mulepepband@gmail.com](mailto:mulepepband@gmail.com). New members are always welcome! GO MULES!



Matt Fash '10 with Larry Glazerman '72.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT FASH

DENT | FROM PAGE 1

threat Iran poses to Israel and the U.S. Mr. Dent cited intelligence reports which estimated that Iran could possess a nuclear weapon by the end of the next decade. He acknowledged that a nuclear threat is something the U.S. will have to deal with, but that the threat is not as immediate as some would suggest.

He went on to say that he supports U.S. imposed sanctions on Iran, and that he supports even tougher sanctions on Iran's economy and infrastructure. "Some of the sanctions that have been most effective are on their global financial services and sanctions on their financial sector and energy sector. We need to continue putting sanc-

tions on Iran." Congressman Dent reiterated the fact that the existence of Israel is crucial for the U.S.

After he finished his question and answer session, Mr. Dent said, "I was excited to have the opportunity to meet with students who are interested in the relationship between the United States and Israel," said Mr. Dent. He reiterated the importance of a strong relationship between the U.S. and Israel. "They are the one nation in the Middle East that we know is stable in a very volatile part of the world."

When asked why students should vote for him in the upcoming election, Dent responded, "I believe I am the one candidate who has the ability to get things done in this community." He went on to say "Recently, my opponent couldn't

name the presidents of Syria and Afghanistan. I don't think a candidate for elected office is qualified if they can't remember basic facts."

President of MUFU, Jonathan Falk '10, said that MUFU wanted to have a congressman speak to students about the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship. "We wanted students to understand why it is important for the United States to give foreign aid to Israel and how that not only benefits Israel, but how that also benefits the United States."




When asked why MUFU decided that Congressman Dent should be the speaker, Falk said "Congressman Dent is a steadfast supporter of the US-Israel relationship. I've had the opportunity to

meet with and lobby many Congressional leaders and Charlie Dent always provides a great perspective for Muhlenberg students." Speaking on behalf of MUFU, Falk said that Congressman Dent's views on the U.S.-Israel relationship offers great insights because of his two recent trips to Israel.

The trip that impacted the students the most was his most recent trip through AIEF (American Israel Education Fund) which gives great insight to Congressional leaders about the Arab-Israeli conflict and a chance to meet with members of Israel's Knesset.

Falk finished by saying, "I feel that Congressman Dent did succeed in bringing a greater understanding of the U.S.-Israel relationship to Muhlenberg students."

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Mostly Sunny	Rain	Few Showers
High: 58 Low: 38	High: 59 Low: 48	High: 61 Low: 46

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

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# New faculty spotlight!

Mr. van der Goes - Economics      Dr. Williams - Anthropology

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Mr. David van der Goes is a Visiting Instructor of Economics, and is new to the department this semester. He has been a resident of the Lehigh Valley for the past four years. After teaching classes at both Lehigh University and Moravian College, he now enjoys the Muhlenberg campus along with his wife, Kate Cartwright, who is the Assistant Director of Community Service and Civic Engagement here at the College.

"Principles of Microeconomics" and "Principles of Macroeconomics" are offered in three sections by Mr. van der Goes this semester. He enjoys teaching these intro level classes, as he has a strong appreciation for the opportunity that they give to introduce students to the subject of economics. "I like the interaction with students who are new to the topic," he explained.

He plans to teach two sections of "Principles of Microeconomics" next semester, and will offer an additional course entitled "Applications of the Dismal Science." This course will cover topics such as environmental policy and legislation of live-donor organ markets.

It will serve as an elective for students in the Economics major, but Mr. van der Goes expressed that the course is open to anyone interested,

even outside of the major. He acknowledged that having a class with a variety of diverse students leads to intriguing in-class discussion.

Mr. van der Goes graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BA in Economics from Temple University. He is now continuing his education in the field of Economics through his pursuit of a Ph. D.

He is currently in his fifth year as a graduate student at Lehigh University and in his doctoral studies he is now working on his dissertation, which involves the study of the long-term effects of being a Vietnam War veteran.

He became interested in the topic through his early graduate school studies of gender and racial wage gaps. His current research examines the lives of these veterans and their families through analyzing their earnings, job quality, education, and health as they approach retirement.

Through his work as both a teacher and a student, Mr. van der Goes is a busy man. In his free time, however, he enjoys mountain biking, a pastime that was more a form of transportation during his twelve years in Philadelphia before he moved to the Lehigh Valley. He also enjoys spending time with his wife and cheering on the Phillies.

The College wishes to welcome Mr. van der Goes and his contributions to the Muhlenberg faculty and community.

By Jana Elfenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Dr. Lana Williams is one of the new additions to the Anthropology Department. Currently teaching Human Evolution and Introduction to Archeology, Dr. Williams is keeping very busy with her work and is enjoying being a professor at the College.

In the future, she plans on teaching Mortuary Archaeology, Life and Death in Ancient Egypt, Forensic Anthropology, and Archaeology of Ancient Mesoamerica here at the College.

Receiving her undergraduate and masters degree from the University of Central Florida, Dr. Williams continued her education at the University of Western Ontario where she ultimately received her Ph.D. She has always found Anthropology to be tremendously fascinating. She asserts, "I love the variety of research that makes up anthropology."

The study of humankind leaves you open for any kind of questions and methods of investigation." She mainly concentrates her studies in Bioarcheology and the numerous ways the human body can emulate our social, physical, and biological environments. She also focuses on the interaction between the living and the dead.

Before teaching Anthropology courses at Muhlenberg, Dr. Williams was in the military. After

she completed her time in the military, she decided to attend graduate school. From there she spent some time working in forensic anthropology in Ontario as well as in Florida. Furthermore, she worked in a bookstore and an adult retail store.

She comments, "Research comes in many forms." This past summer Dr. Williams assisted in forensic casework in Ontario where she spent most of her time in an isotope lab.

After working in a laboratory all summer, she was extraordinarily eager to start her teaching career at the College. She states, "Teaching Anthropology is always fun for me. I love teaching about the oddities that make humans unique and providing students with a better understanding of our place in nature." In addition she stresses, "Helping students understand that the past is a valuable part of their future is one of the reasons I love being a teacher."

When she is not enthusiastically teaching in class or preparing for upcoming lessons, she really enjoys traveling, reading comic books, and surfing. Her favorite television shows include *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Strangers in Paradise*, and *The Daily Show*. She likes listening to the White Stripes, Chemical Brothers, and Adam Freedland. She particularly loves a great slice of pizza.

The College is pleased to have Dr. Williams on campus.

## OFF CAMPUS

### Republican ticket McCain and Palin draw crowd at Lehigh

On Wed., Oct. 8, Senator John McCain and Governor Sarah Palin paid a visit to the Lehigh Valley in a campaign effort that drew a crowd of 6,000 at Lehigh University. It was McCain's third visit to the Lehigh Valley since April, but this was the first visit which Palin attended as well. The two flew into the Valley on separate jets, meeting up at Lehigh Valley International Airport to arrive together at the University.

Governor Palin, in her fifteen minute introduction of McCain, called the election a "choice... between a politician who puts his faith in government and a leader who puts his faith in you."

McCain followed this introduction with a twenty minute speech, which was centered on his recently proposed plan to spend 300 billion dollars out of the Wall Street rescue package in order to purchase distressed mortgages from homeowners and replace them directly with more manageable mortgages.

His speech continued, outlining his plan to aid homeowners in refinancing their mortgages and pitching himself as the "reliable" choice in this election that is taking place during a time filled with "trouble and danger." He portrayed himself as a tried and tested leader, an argument that came alive in both his and his running mate's criticisms of his opponent, Senator Obama.

McCain placed emphasis on Obama as the candidate of lesser experi-

ence and, he said, less clear plans for the future. He drew attention to what he saw as a lack of cohesiveness between some of Obama's statements of the past and those he is running with today. "What Senator Obama says today and what he has done in the past are often two different things," McCain said, to which long-winded chants of "No-bama, No-bama" were yelled from the crowd.

This wasn't the only form of McCain support that was found amidst the crowd in Lehigh's Stabler Arena. "Hot Chicks for McCain" buttons were worn by some female supporters, and many attendees acknowledged that their doubts and fears about Senator Obama led them to come to the event. One McCain supporter even admitted to switching her registration to Democratic just to vote against Senator Obama in the primaries and switch it back afterwards. She expressed her distrust for Obama, stating her belief that not enough is known about the candidate and his past.

McCain's goal is to focus on both pitching his economic plans and raising doubts about the intentions and commitments of his opponent serves to illustrate the complexities of the current campaigns. Both candidates are forced to strive for this delicate balance as they try to dissuade voters from supporting their opponent, especially with the economy in its current state.

Information Courtesy of The Morning Call



## Campus Safety Notes

Sept. 29 - Found Property - A set of keys with a blue lanyard was found on the visitors side of the football stadium. The keys were given to the Office of Residential Services.

Sept. 29 - Vandalism - Two lights outside of Prosser Hall were vandalized. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 29 - Theft - It was reported that a set of keys were stolen. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 29 - Alarm - Fire alarm went off in Haas College Center. Cause is believed to be a power surge.

Sept. 29 - Medical - A student in Prosser Hall was reported to be having trouble breathing. MCEMS paged Heath Center. HC paged Allentown Police. Student was transported to hospital.

Sept. 30 - Medical - A student on the fourth floor of Martin Luther Hall reportedly had an allergic reaction. MCEMS responded. Student was transported to hospital.

Sept. 30 - Lost Property - Student reported losing key-card somewhere on campus.

Sept. 30 - Vandalism - A light outside of Prosser Hall was vandalized for the second night in a row. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 30 - Theft - A student reported that an iPod was stolen somewhere on campus. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 30 - Alarm - A fire alarm went off on 419 Lehigh St. due to cooking. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 1 - Vandalism - A Latin-American Heritage Week banner was vandalized in the Parent's Plaza. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 1 - Theft - A wedding arch was stolen from homecoming weekend. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 1 - Alarm - A fire alarm on 2241 Liberty St. was set off by smoke from

cooking. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 1 - Medical - A Seegers Union employee slipped and fell on the floor and complained of pain. Employee was transported to the hospital.

Oct. 2 - Investigative - Suspicious activity on Liberty Street. Officer called and stated that while patrolling he saw two males breaking into a vehicle. One was caught and the other ran. Officers spoke to the owner of the vehicle and nothing was taken from the vehicle. The APD was called and responded and the suspect has been identified.

Oct. 2 - Medical - Student passed out in hallway in Walz Hall. Student was transported to hospital and referred to the Judicial Process.

Oct. 2 - Lost Property - Student lost iPod on Monday. Campus safety will notify the owner if it is turned in.

Oct. 2 - Theft - Student reported that someone took the parking sticker from the bumper of the car. It was taken between the evening of Oct. 1 and morning of Oct. 2. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 2 - Found Property - Found tennis racket by light box. No one was around. The item has been placed in evidence box.

Oct. 2 - Investigative - Student reported getting harassing e-mails on Facebook. Investigation to continue.

Oct. 3 - Lost Property - Reporting party left cigarette case with cards out on mail cart and stepped away. Upon returning the case was missing. It was later found in a case of styrofoam peanuts all askew. No cards were missing but there is fear that someone may have written down the card numbers to use at a later date. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 3 - Vandalism - Graffiti on stop sign and sidewalk area on N. Pictures were taken and there are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 3 - Found property - Bike with a broken gear shift found outside of Walson Hall. Plant Operations brought it to Campus Safety. It is unknown at this time who it belongs to.

Oct. 3 - Wallet lost sometime around Wednesday. Campus Safety will notify the owner if it is turned in.

Oct. 3 - Found Property - On the second floor of Martin Luther Hall three checks were slipped under the door. The checks were later returned to owner and no further incident ensued.

Oct. 3 - Vandalism - It looks as if a car or SUV hit the bleachers of the tennis courts. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 3 - Lost Property - Report of lost cell phone on the second floor of Trumbower. Investigation to continue.

Oct. 3 - Lost Property - Student reported that they lost a cell phone somewhere on campus. Seegers Union information desk was checked and it was not there. Student was told to cancel the phone and there was no further incident.

Oct. 3 - Liquor Law - Student under the influence of alcohol in Seegers Union. Student was transported to the hospital.

Oct. 4 - Sex Offense - Jane Doe student complaint of sexual harassment. Notice was sent to the campus community.

Oct. 4 - Theft - Sofa cushion stolen from Seegers Union lounge. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 4 - Plant Operations - Garbage man ripped out cable of garbage compressor. Issue was fixed and the case has been since closed.

Oct. 4 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off due to cooking at 2442 Tilghman Street.

Oct. 4 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounded in Life Sports Center from steam tank room under the north bleachers. Plant Operations was called to respond.

Oct. 4 - Medical - Student from Prosser Hall reported finger injury to Campus Safety. MCEMS was paged and responded but student refused transportation to the hospital.

Oct. 4 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off due to steam from a shower at 2263 Turner Street.

Oct. 4 - Noise Complaint - Students being loud on N. 22 Street and were reported going in and out of the nursing home. A Disruptive Conduct Report was served.

Oct. 5 - Noise Complaint - APD responded to noise complaint on N 22 Street and Disruptive Conduct Report was issued.

Oct. 5 - Investigative - In East Hall a suspicious person called out to student to hold door open. Students was very nervous and thought that suspicious person was a non-student. No further incident occurred.

Oct. 5 - Medical - On the fourth floor of Martin Luther Hall a roommate called about a sick student who was passed out due to a medical problem. MCEMS paged Allentown EMS and student was taken to the hospital.

Oct. 5 - Vandalism - Student reported that a visitor's motorcycle was knocked over and there was some damage to the rear break and pipe. Pictures were taken and the visitor was told to report to the APD.

Oct. 6 - Investigative - Report of older gentleman in a red Hyundai Elantra with GA plates almost hitting theatre department employees. He was also seen earlier dumping trash into our dumpsters. Officer reports that there was only one bag of garbage in the dumpster and all it contained was garbage and bugs. There is no identification as to who may have thrown it in the dumpster.

Oct. 6 - Vandalism - Report of vandalized lights, again, in Prosser Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 6 - Vandalism -

Broken window in the front of 2625 Liberty Street. The incident is believed to have happened sometime over the weekend. The window was broken from the outside per unit 13. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 6 - Dispatch Code - Concerned parent of student living in Prosser Annex called Campus Safety worried. She called the Counseling Center and it was closed. Office located student in room and returned the parent's phone call. No further incident occurred.

Oct. 6 - Disorderly Conduct - Event holder called at about a protestor creating a disturbance at an event held in the Center for the Arts.

Oct. 6 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounding due to burnt food at 415 Lehigh Street.

Oct. 6 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounded due to shower at 2235 Gordon Street.

Oct. 7 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounded due to steam from shower at 419 Lehigh Street.

Oct. 7 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounding due to cooking at 2214 Chew Street.

Oct. 7 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounding due to steam from shower at 2235 Gordon Street.

Oct. 8 - Found Property - Set of keys found on desk in the Center for the Arts. Item was placed in the evidence closet.

Oct. 8 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounding due to cooking at 2235 Gordon Street.

Oct. 8 - Social Code Violation - Reported finding alcohol and the smell of pot in Martin Luther Hall.

Oct. 8 - Liquor Law - Reported finding a bottle in a room in East Hall D. Referred to the Judicial Process.

Oct. 8 - Liquor Law - Reported finding bottles of alcohol in room in Benfer Hall. Referred to the Judicial Process.

Oct. 8 - Social Code



## Campus Safety Notes

Violation - Found beer funnel on towel rack in Martin Luther Hall on the second floor. Item was placed in Campus Safety evidence closet.

Oct. 8 - Found napkin holder in room in Martin Luther Hall on the second floor. This is an item that belongs in Seegers Union. Investigation to continue.

Oct. 8 - Liquor Law - Bottle of liquor found on top of microwave on the third floor of Martin Luther Hall. Referred to the Judicial Process.

Oct. 8 - Residential Policy - Fire violation found in room in Benfer Hall on the first floor. A coffee pot was found in the common room. Referred to the Judicial Process.

Oct. 8 - Social Code Violation - Reported finding an empty beer box in room on the first floor of Benfer Hall. Referred to the Judicial Process.

Oct. 9 - Traffic - Bus dropping off girls field hockey team was hit by a tree limb on the top of the bus while parking at Union Terrace.

Oct. 9 - Dispatch Code - Found car keys on pink chain. Keys were given to housing office due to a room key being on. Housing reports that it is not a room key but possibly a lab or building key. Will notify

Plant Operations to check key status. Unknown who they belong to.

Oct. 12 - Vandalism - Vandalism to food light in Parent's Plaza. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 12 - Vandalism - Spouting is ripped off on the east side of Walson Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 12 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounding due to cooking at 415 Leh Street.

Oct. 12 - Traffic - Pedestrian accident by Walz Hall. APD was called to check situation. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 13 - Medical - Sick student in East Hall was transported to hospital by Health Center officer. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 13 - Traffic - Freshman living in Prosser Hall was found to have a parked car on N. 26 St. Dean of Students was notified.

Oct. 13 - Theft - Student reported a bike being stolen from Prosser Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 13 - Medical - A student fell off a chair at the Phi Kappa Tau house and injured his leg. Student was transported to hospital. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 13 - Burglary - House at 221 N. 22 St. was burglarized. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 13 - Medical - A dining room employee complained of severe leg cramps. Employee requested to go to hospital. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 13 - Medical - A student at 2201 Chew St. received a puncture wound on leg. Student was transported to hospital. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 14 - Alarm - Fire alarm in Haas College Center set off by power outage. Power outage blamed on a possible blown transformer. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 15 - Medical - A student in East Hall was vomiting and had a fever. Health Center transported student to hospital. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 15 - Suspicious Activity - A male, 30-35 years of age, was seen watching pornography on A-level of the Trexler Library. The man was escorted out by campus police and taken to HQ. The offender was issued a letter of trespass.

Oct. 15 - Sex Offense - Student reported being sexually harassed by a former student in South Whitehall Township. South Whitehall

Police are investigating the incident.

Oct. 15 - Liquor Law - Campus Police responded to a tip regarding underage drinking in East Hall. The offenders were referred to Judicial.

Oct. 16 - Traffic - A car in the Prosser parking lot accumulated 12 unpaid parking tickets. The car was towed. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 16 - Theft - A radio was reportedly stolen from the Garden Room. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 16 - Alarm - A fire alarm sounded at 2442 Tilghman St. Smoke from cooking set off the alarm. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 17 - Liquor Law - A student was seen with an open container of beer on N. Leh St. Student was referred to Judicial.

Oct. 18 - Liquor Law - A student on the first floor of Martin Luther Hall was feared to have alcohol poisoning. Student was arrested by APD and taken to the hospital.

Oct. 18 - Assault - A non-student was assaulted in the Liberty St. Tavern. Victim was transported to the hospital. The incident is under investigation.

Oct. 18 - Liquor Law -

Student in Prosser Hall was taken to the hospital after becoming sick from alcohol.

Oct. 18 - Burglary - Reports that a lamp was found broken and a screen was missing at 2243 Liberty St. Incident is under investigation.

Oct. 19 - Noise Complaint - Noise complaint on Liberty Street. DCR issued by the city.

Oct. 19 - Noise Complaint - Noise complaint on N 22 Street. DCR issued by the city.

Oct. 19 - Liquor Law - Loud party involving alcohol in Prosser Hall on first floor main. Referred to Judicial Process.

Oct. 19 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation in Brown Hall. MCEMS paged and Allentown EMS called. Transported to hospital.

Oct. 19 - Found Property - Keys and a hat found in alley behind Leh Street.

Oct. 19 - Alarms - Fire alarm sounding due to steam from shower at 2201 Chew Street.

Oct. 19 - Vandalism - Damaged vehicle found on Chew Street. APD was contacted.

Oct. 19 - Medical - Sick student on the fourth floor of Walz Hall. MCEMS paged Allentown EMS.



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WEEKLY

# Life!

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, "I used everything you gave me."

~Erma Bombeck

## Lesley Roy's "Unbeautiful" inner demons surface on debut record

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The angsty teenage girl has been one of the core targets of songwriters in search of an audience for decades. Albums such as Carole King's *Tapestry* had every female high school senior at the time singing "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?" the night before graduation. Fast forward a few years and you've got Evanescence performing the soundtrack to every Hot Topic wearing teen girl's Livejournal, along with Taylor Swift singing "Picture To Burn," threatening to spread rumors about her ex if he won't shut up. In 2008, the insecure, misunderstood, sometimes vengeful, and all around filled to the brim with emotions heroine comes in the form of Lesley Roy.

Hailing from Dublin, Roy released her debut album *Unbeautiful*, on Sept 30 via Jive Records. It's the female empowerment record that the girls who think they're too old to listen to Miley Cyrus but too young to listen to Alanis Morissette have been waiting for. The album kicks off with the lead single "I'm Gone, I'm Going," Roy's best attempt at emulating Kelly Clarkson's superstar-making "Since U Been Gone." It has the

same energy and independent spirit, but lacks the vocal power and infectious pop anthem formula that Clarkson provides. That being said, the song is still incredibly catchy, and if you're a reality TV junkie then you've most likely also heard it as the theme to MTV's *Exiled*. It's not difficult to picture a sixteen-year-old girl blasting this song in her Jonas Brothers poster splattered room after her crush has moved on to someone else.

The following song, "Here For You Now," is a complete fusion of the two polar ends of pop music. In one hand you have the verses with the edgy, scratchy vocals and heavy versus little instrumentation of a Meg & Dia song. Then in the other hand you've got the chorus sounding like cheesy S Club 7-esque pop hooks trying to disguise themselves as rock by adding guitar licks. Regardless of the awkwardness, this synthesis of sounds would be assumed to make, it actually works and creates a good balance that evens out the song into a bonafide radio hit.

The lyrics within the title track skip around from pleading to questioning to a self-deprecating decision to give up trying to win back Roy's love. This variety of feelings, however, is not only reflected in her

raspy to smooth vocal transitions, but is also consistent throughout the record as whole. When describing it on her website, Roy wrote that "There are a couple of themes that run through the album, evolving around the many different aspects in relationships, whether it is loss of love, not wanting to be in love, trying to help a friend through their own issues, struggling through death of a friend, unrequited love and the happiness and excitement of being in love. There is also a sense of not wanting to be hurt and trying to stand up for yourself after a difficult relationship." With an entire spectrum of emotions to choose from, the deliberate lyrical unsteadiness of *Unbeautiful* was certainly the most appropriate track to name the album after.

Coming after *Unbeautiful* is the most memorable song on the record, *Psycho Bitch*. The lyrics sound like the thought process Carrie Underwood had after she made her man think twice "before he cheats" again. Hands down the heaviest rock song on the record, Roy lets out her inner jealous ex-girlfriend and confesses to a rancorous outburst. "Bet you never thought that I would be the psycho bitch like the kind of girl that's gonna smash your headlights" she sings/screams after

learning that her former lover is "hooked on someone" other than her. Although in hindsight it can be rather funny to picture the bitter ex lashing out, it makes the listener never want to be on Roy's bad side, just in case there's ever an "Even Bigger Psycho Bitch" on her second album.

Next is "When I Look At You," the most sexual song on the record. In it, Roy moves from her regular themes of the emotional aspects of a relationship to the physical side. After "drinking cheap wine," her libido skyrockets and all she can think about how she wants to "get a room" with this sexy "James Dean"-like guy. It's not the album's finest moment, but it's a fun song nonetheless. Think of it as a reject from Ashlee Simpson's *Bittersweet World* album, in that the lyrics are overly simple and cliché but are still attempted to be sung like there's substance behind them. However, the placement of this song on the record rounds out Roy's personality because it demonstrates that she's not just the somber and misunderstood lonely ex-girlfriend, but that she does in fact have a fun side and there's more to her than just being a bucket of misery.

SEE Roy | PAGE 15

## Josh Lucas wants you to vote



Josh Lucas, the lead actor from such movies as *Sweet Home Alabama* and *Glory Road*, came to the College Oct. 6 with his co star in *Glory Road* and fellow actor Al Shearer, to promote Democratic presidential candidate, Barack Obama.

When asked why Obama, both responded enthusiastically to the change that he will bring to this country and, says Lucas, the end of the "hatred and fear that the Republican party has instilled in the American people these past eight years."

Of course, the two also signed autographs and took pictures with their fans, like the one shown at left.

PHOTO BY ROSS LITMAN  
COMPILED BY LUANNE LINARES



# Sex in every religion...

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Along with a diverse religious student body at the College, the campus provides a rich variety of opinions on every subject. This is no different when it comes to sex. It's impossible to tell what anyone's views are without asking.

However, often an individual's views on sex coincide with the religious teachings they follow. This is a quick reference guide to some of the major world religions and their teachings on sex.

**Disclaimer:** The following are interpretations of religious views, and I apologize ahead of time for any misinterpretations.

Also, these interpretations may not encompass all views held by all sects of these religious groups. Rather, these are broad overviews of some underlying beliefs, and each person is entitled to his own view of religious works.

**Christianity:**

The Bible teaches that sex is an act only to be committed within marriage. Sex is considered a gift to married couples, meant to bring them closer

together as well as encouraging people to be fruitful and multiply.

Showing affection in other ways, such as kissing, is generally accepted as well.

When a person doesn't follow these teachings, they are seen as defying God. Despite forgiveness of sins being a main part of Christianity, premarital sex is not taken lightly within the Church communities.

**Judaism:**

According to a Jewish expert on campus, the Torah teaches that, when you have sex, you literally become married. This is often interpreted to mean that you may not have sex outside of marriage.

One of the main issues is that outside of marriage, you are wasting your semen. For this reason, condoms are frowned upon, since they are viewed as a means of throwing away seed.

Like Christianity, the purpose of sex is primarily to be fruitful and multiply. Also it is important to note that having sex with a girl when she is on her men-

strual cycle is forbidden because she hasn't completed a purity process involving going to a *mikvah*, a cleansing ritual achieved through immersing oneself in natural water baths.

**Islam:**

Sex, in addition to touching, kissing, fondling, and hugging is strictly prohibited before marriage. Sex is not seen as a way of expressing one's feelings, and can ruin the afterlife.

It's also recommended that a married couple should pray before sex. Also, a couple should always begin a sexual act with kind words and caresses. Maintaining modesty is also very important.

**Hinduism:**

Premarital sex is considered very sacrilegious. In fact, dating between a man and a woman is not even accepted. Rather, arranged marriages are enforced in order to avoid this phenomena.

Similar to Islam, modesty is also an important

aspect, and must be taken into account before engaging in sexual activities.

**Buddhism:**

The Buddhist view on sex is particularly abstract. The act of sex itself is considered to be very beneficial. However, a person must be completely at peace with themselves before having sex.

In order for the act to be sacred, the person has to be in the moment completely. Desiring your partner is considered wrong; sex should only be performed if it is a complete expression of oneself.

Keeping these various viewpoints in mind, it is important to note that these are just a few interpretations of a very broad and often controversial subject. Rather, religiously-interpreted views of sex can be very ambiguous at times.

This is partly due to the fact that everyone has their own interpretation of their religion.

This allows people to deviate from what they have been taught, and choose their own paths regarding various aspects of their personal lives, such as their views on sex.



## AMC Weekend Listings



**Pride and Glory**  
Fri. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10  
Sat. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10  
Sun. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

**Body of Lies**  
Fri. 1:00, 4:15, 7:10  
Sat. 1:00, 4:15, 7:10  
Sun. 1:00, 4:15, 7:10

**Eagle Eye**  
Fri. 4:30, 7:40, 10:20  
Sat. 4:30, 7:40, 10:20  
Sun. 4:30, 7:40, 10:20

**Quarantine**  
Fri. 5:30, 7:50, 10:15  
Sat. 5:30, 7:50, 10:15  
Sun. 5:30, 7:50, 10:15

**Saw V**  
Fri. 5:20, 8:10, 10:30  
Sat. 5:20, 8:10, 10:30  
Sun. 5:20, 8:10, 10:30

**Max Payne**  
Fri. 5:10, 7:30, 10:00  
Sat. 5:10, 7:30, 10:00  
Sun. 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua**  
Fri. 4:40, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:40, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:40, 6:50, 9:30

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST ABOUT PARENT'S WEEKEND?



"My family seeing the Black Box productions."  
- Tim Popp, '09



"My dad's bringing me pie."  
- Becky Nitka, '09



"The parties."  
- Scott Kanner, '12



"The World Series games."  
- Tom Sylvester, '10



"Going to the football game and seeing my little brother."  
- Kelly Santo, '11

# A classic and challenging *Oklahoma!*

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

There's a bright golden haze on the meadow once again on the Paul C. Empie stage. The Muhlenberg Theatre Association and Dept. of Theatre and Dance present the classical musical play about farmers, cowboys, and the women they love at the turn of the 20th century. *Oklahoma!* marked the first collaboration of Rodgers and Hammerstein and also birthed a new purely American art form with the Musical Play.

Some campus community members have asked "Why *Oklahoma!*?" groaning over the selection of this piece for family weekend.

If *Oklahoma!* is considered overdone because it is frequently produced by high schools and community theatres, perhaps we belittle its impact because productions rarely capture the dramatic meat of the story.

Professor Charles Richter, who has directed the piece twice in his three decades at Muhlenberg and directs this year's show, said, "My theory is: do the best possible mate-

rial. There's a reason *Oklahoma!* is a classic."

Before writing this show, Richard Rodgers wrote witty musical comedies with Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein II was venerated for composing challenging operettas and Hollywood film scores.

Their 1943 collaboration on Lynn Riggs' play *Green Grow The Lilacs* turned into *Oklahoma!* Many consider the show a creative testament to Rodgers and Hammerstein's approach to the physical, emotional and psychological world of the characters in the play. Riggs was part Cherokee and a pioneer in writing to preserve western cultural history.

Richter said, "It is a play with music, there is a real dramatic spine to the piece. It's music theatre where the music is an organic extension of the action and characters."

Christa Wroblewski '09 and Colin Hooker-Haring '10 play the headstrong romantic leads Laurey and Curly. Jim Ludlum '09 plays Jud, the brooding farmhand who attempts to tear them apart.

Dana Parisi '09 and Mike Miller '09 play the hilarious Ado Annie and Will Parker. Sarah Mazes '09

plays Aunt Eller. The cast of over forty students is accompanied by a professional orchestra and will fill the acoustically unique Empie Theatre with triumphant song without microphone amplification. John Gavin '09 is the lighting designer for this lush production.

Richter added, "We wanted to do a show that had an extensive dance life. The dance is beautiful."

Ryan Brown '09 serves as dance captain and Magda Brennan '09 and Erik Fiebeiger '10 are Laurey and Curly in the "Dream Ballet." Choreographer Karen Dearborn describes her approach to the musical as both "familiar and new," honoring the storytelling technique that Agnes DeMille brought to the Broadway stage but creating original movement for the company.

Richter believes in the power of the story, and the great potential for audiences to be entertained by the work. He specifically sites the production's value for college students on campus as it "deals with concerns young people have. It is about how you make choices in personal relationships."

The basic premise of the show is

who Laurey will go to the dance with. It takes this simple premise and does ingenious things with it."

Having directed the show before, Richter explained, "this time around, I'm interested in the ambiguities of the play. The show has a seemingly conventional happy ending, but as the leading lady and cowboy go off into the sunset, there is something disturbing. They may not be totally innocent."

Richter's production acknowledges there is pain in the world and there are difficult choices to be made. "There is a darkness in *Oklahoma!* that most people try to get rid of, we don't go that route, and I'm glad to have a talented cast that is able to explore that with me."

This production seems to promise both entertaining song and dance and a dramatic core that may surprise audiences. Attending the fall musical is a favorite activity and tradition for many families during parent's weekend.

Students unable to see the show opening weekend will want to be sure to catch it during its second week running Wed, Oct 29 through Sun, Nov 2.

Directed by Charles Richter  
Choreographed by Karen Dearborn  
Musically Directed by Ken Butler

Rodgers and Hammerstein's

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## Trexler Library Celebrates 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

By Bethany Gagas  
LIBRARY STUDENT ASSISTANT

A cornerstone of our campus, a study staple, an intellectual's haven, and a timeless architectural masterpiece sits just south of Chew—the Harry C. Trexler Library. On Oct. 24 we'll celebrate twenty years of Trexler as an integral part of campus life.

Some history. . .

The design for Trexler Library began in 1985 when architect Robert Geddes was tapped to create a new library for the College campus. Geddes envisioned the new library as a convergence of the old with the new. This required reconciliation between the older buildings constructed in the medieval and neo-gothic traditions (Haas, Ettinger, Trumbower, East Hall, and Egner Chapel), with the campus' then newest building, the Baker Center for the Arts. The CA, positioned across the street from the original campus, changed the campus layout from the classic college quadrangle to more of a triangle. Geddes sought a way to combine the original buildings' medieval tradition with the CA's up-and-coming minimalist modern trend – to reconcile “the collegiate gothic and the evolving modern language of architecture.”

But before the construction and conceptualization processes could begin, Geddes, a team of dedicated faculty, and then-college president, Dr. Jonathan C. Messerli, had to choose the site. After considering seven different spaces, an open athletic area on the south side of Chew St., Hagen Field, was chosen for the new library. The groundbreaking ceremony took place in March 1988.

Geddes approached his design as a commission to create a structure honoring the old and new in knowledge and in learning. Trexler's exterior contains the gables of a village, the towers of a castle, and the expanse of windows of modern architecture.

Parts of the roofline are reflected in several of the original buildings on campus, while the building's height ties it to the modern structure of the CA. The anchor of the interior is the Muhlenberg Room. Tradition is honored in this room, with the names of the first generations of Muhlenberg family members engraved in gold along the top of the bookcases lining the wall.

From this room, one axis heads to the Fulford Room, with the reading terraces in between. The other

axis heads toward the solarium and the magazine reading area outside the new Information Commons. The wide book collection and bulk of the library services – the heart of the library – lay between these two axes.

Besides acting as a link between the old and the new, the library was also conceptualized as embodying the joy of learning. Not surprisingly, it was founded around its most fundamental component: the library books themselves. This emphasis on books and learning is evidenced by the stone carvings at the library's entrance, which reads “book” in three different languages: Biblos (Greek), Sefer (Hebrew), and in Egyptian hieroglyphic.

Perhaps the most notable blending of the ancient and modern is embodied in William Severson's sculpture “The Tree of Knowledge.” It is actually modeled after the traditional tree of life. The tree is medieval in its symbolic portrayal of the fourteen fruits (seven vices and seven virtues). Yet it is modern in its employment of fiber optic cables, scattered throughout the piece, that transmit the sun's light through the brickwork.

The celebration in 1988. . .

With the library built, Muhlenberg pulled out all the stops for the library's dedication, as evidenced by the wide array of activities that spanned a weekend in the fall of 1988.

Celebrations were kicked off by a “high-tech” outdoor laser show displayed on the outside of the library. “Celebrating Books!” was a day-long festival that featured demonstrations of printing, book binding, silk-screening, calligraphy, a book sale, and neighborhood children dressed up as their favorite story-book characters.

Finally, on Oct 1, 1988, “Yours Truly, Harry C. Trexler,” a film on the life of General Harry C. Trexler for whom the library is named after, was shown on the front lawn. Then, brass quintets duelled from the roofs of Haas and Trexler to symbolize the transition from the old to the new.

The Celebration in 2008. . .

Trexler's twentieth anniversary celebration kicked off on Sunday with the showing of a free people's-choice film on the library lawn. Celebrations continued on Monday with a book group discussion as part of the campus-wide book reading. On Tuesday, there was a reading from banned books in celebration of the American Library Association's Banned Books Week.

## Student theatre artists thinking outside the Black Box

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Several times a year, the Studio Theatre is handed over to select student directors who have completed a peer submission process in order to make their theatrical dreams come true with a very small budget and very large commitment.

These productions are affectionately referred to as Black Boxes because of the performance space which provides the flexibility to intimately adapt to any convention the directors desire.

This round of productions includes Sarah Cane's *Crave*, directed by Andrew Brown '09, Wendy MacLeod's *The House of Yes* directed by Becky Balaguer '09, and an original piece written and directed by Aaron Lawson '09 entitled *The Audience Enters*.

Tickets, which are free, will be available at a table in Seegers this week. (If you don't make it to the table, or if the lists fill up, show up on the day of performances before show times as tickets may suddenly become available.)

Andrew Brown, who directed the Studio Production *Mud* last Fall, directs a savage and explosive production of *Crave* featuring Michael Kite '09, Becky Nitka '09, Tim Popp '09, and Kristin Sgarro '10.

British playwright Sarah Cane, a controversial writer who committed suicide in 1999, wrote this play about four characters meeting in an unnamed city from which voices and images spring, grappling to pierce the turmoil to find comfort in connection.

According to Brown, the work “serves to engage both artist and audience in an exploration of our own devices for communication, confronting our need for and lack of human contact in a condition where technology too easily plays mother, brother, lover, companion.”

*The House of Yes* presents the hilarious and disturbing story of a son bringing his fiancée home for Thanksgiving dinner to meet the family: an alcoholic mother, mentally unstable sister and socially awkward brother who all model themselves after the Kennedys. In this play, a hurricane causes a blackout and havoc ensues.

This production of desire, excess, and delusion stars Justin Stern '12, Lynn Lisella '11, Caitlin Delaney '10, Kendra Mittermeyer '09 and Evan Loewenstein '09.

Balaguer says, “These characters have no boundaries. They are constantly involved in a battle between achieving normalcy and feeding their

desires. They are over the top and ridiculous, but ultimately want the same thing everyone wants—to be loved.”

Aaron Lawson's *The Audience Enters* will feel like “The Land of Misfit Toys.” The work is composed of thirteen separate scenes in which tragedy is taken to the vaudeville stage. Lawson wrote these scenes with the intention of challenging audiences.

The cast includes Doug Dulaney '12, Baily Knoerschild '11, Joe Kowalsky '12, Jake Kreeger '11, Phil Lakin '09, Katie Lowery '12, Andrea Ouellette '11, and Hannah Mesouani '11. The play features the musical direction of Mike Cali '09 and sound and video design by Kyle Hamilton '09.

Matthew Franzetti '09 serves as the Muhlenberg Theatre Association's (MTA) Studio Production Coordinator this year with rich experience and vision. Franzetti held the position his sophomore year and assisted his freshman year.

“I wanted to be the coordinator to steer the Black Boxes in a direction they need to be going. These are not grandiose full scale productions, but rather an opportunity for artists in the Muhlenberg theatre community to exercise their educated craft in an experimental venue.”

One unique aspect to this set of shows is this semester's theme “Thinking Outside the Black Box.” Franzetti describes the work as “raw and experimental.” The directors have chosen provocative pieces and student designers Christopher Szczerbienski '11 and Ole Pederson '11 have followed suit with abstract design concepts.

The shows promise a theatre experience unlike the College has seen before, using a corner of the Black Box that has not been used in the past four years, a very unique style of seating, and a special late night showing of the productions on Monday night.

Brown said, “Studio Productions are an invaluable tool in allowing student artists to practice their training in non-traditional settings. They provide opportunities for actors, directors, technicians, and audience members to strengthen the creative skills that we will put into action outside of Muhlenberg.”

And the audience loves them too. These productions showcase the talent of those involved well as the appreciation of talent that runs throughout the campus. These productions are a good way to show off all the talent the College has to offer beyond the Mainstage.



# Bill Maher vs. God

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

In his book *God is Not Great*, noted intellectual and atheist Christopher Hitchens came up with this powerful quote speaking of dead priests who have committed the unpardonable sin of child rape, "...those who preached hatred and fear and guilt and who ruined innumerable childhoods should have been thankful that the hell they preached was only one among their wicked falsification, and that they were not sent to rot there." It is this idea, of the falsehood of religion and the dangers of believing in it, that comedian Bill Maher expounds upon in his devilishly-funny and thought-provoking documentary, *Religulous* (a play on the words "religious" and "ridiculous").

At the beginning of the film, Mr. Maher makes it clear that he is not an atheist, that he is not making this documentary to disprove the existence of God, but rather to ask questions that he feels other people are afraid to ask.

Throughout the film, Mr. Maher displays his intellect, quick wit, and deep skepticism of the legitimacy of religion. He travels to centers of religion all over the world including the Vatican, Jerusalem, Salt Lake City, and even to Amsterdam, to find the answers to his questions.

Throughout his journeys, he comes across many different people such as a former Blues band member turned Pastor, a member of Jews for Jesus, a Muslim rapper and even the self-proclaimed, second coming of Jesus Christ himself.

In North Carolina, Mr. Maher met with Pastor Jeremiah Cummings, a former member of the Blues group Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes. Pastor Cummings (who asked to be referred to as "Dr." despite not having a degree in ANY field) appears on camera wearing a fancy suit, lizard skin shoes and lots of jewelry which provides great fodder for a veteran comedian like Maher to rip into.

Mr. Maher asks the Pastor how he can preach Jesus' words while wearing such expensive clothes despite the Bible quote "it is easier for a camel to pass through

the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get into heaven." Pastor Cummings repeatedly professes his ignorance to the quote (it appears in Matthew 19:24). During this interview, Director Larry Charles (*Borat*) displays his talent for editing.

Pastor Cummings tells a story of a suicidal man who came to him for help. The man was deeply in love with a woman who left him. Pastor Cummings told the man to turn that love for the woman into a love of God. Charles quickly cuts to a video of a suicide car-bomber blowing up, exemplifying how a misguided belief for God can turn into destruction.

Steve Burg is a religious antiques dealer and member of the group, Ex-Jews for Jesus. He is also prey to Maher's skepticism and wit during an interview. Asked what he believes life after death will be like, Mr. Burg responds by saying that its paradise because he will be with Jesus. Intrigued by Mr. Burg's response, Mr. Maher asks him, "If you saw a mushroom cloud, that wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing?"

Mr. Burg responds, "I know I'd be with Jesus." Mr. Maher then asks a very blunt, but insightful question, "If life after death is so good, then why don't you just kill yourself?"

Critics of Mr. Maher have said that he bullies his interviewees in the film. I do not share their criticism. The people who Mr. Maher interviews claim to know God's intentions and they argue that their belief is the only one that is right. They should be able to answer the important questions that Mr. Maher asks.

This film serves to highlight the contradictions, falsification and danger that accompany religion. Maher and Charles achieve this goal with great and disturbing effectiveness.

The film ends with a quote from Osama bin Laden: "Acquiring nuclear weapons for the defense of Muslims is a religious duty." Can there be a more searing indictment of the dangers of religion than that quote?

*Religulous* is a must see, regardless of your beliefs. What makes it so good is that it is a truly funny film.

# Muhlenberg Idol!

By Matthew Fash & Mike Fau  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITERS

The Second Annual Muhlenberg Idol was an incredible event.

It was sponsored by the Class of 2009. President Matt Fash led as production Coordinator, Event Coordinators were Diana DaSilva and Laura Sansosti, Christina Vergos was the Stage Manager.

Idol united the entire campus community as all class years, several Greek organizations, theater, and a variety of majors were represented among the contestants; faculty and administration served as the judges.

It was a highly anticipated event and was extremely well received by the students and staff, as the Great Room was filled beyond capacity this past Friday night.

The 12 contestants who performed were Andrea Ouellette, Adam Rogers, Katelyn White, LisaMarie Ianuzzi, Alex Lotorto, LeAnn Rampulla, Jaclyn Kiely, Tom Crozier, Victoria Socci, Maria Ruppert, Joseph Kowalsky, and Donna Ward.

The host this year was Alex Kennedy, the Muhlenberg Idol Champion from last year. Our Judges

were Dean Green, Mr. Mike Bruckner, Dr. Rudski, Brenda Lakis, Christine Ebner, and Judge Liaison - Niki Kelman.

Our judges added another fantastic element to the show. Senior Rob McCrann was the show's official accompanist. Intermission production included the "Pie your favorite Campus Safety Officer" in which officers, Officer Joe Vargo, Sergeant Jim Fritts, Assistant Chief Brenda Lakis, and Chief Tom Dougherty were pied in the face as a fundraiser for Campus Watch.

Justin Demko rapped for the audience while the judges deliberated. Alex Kennedy was the final act before the 2008 Muhlenberg Idol was announced.

The winner of Muhlenberg Idol 2008 was Senior Donna Ward.

Idol gave students an opportunity to showcase their talent in a relaxed manner in front of their peers and, most importantly, to have fun.

The Class of 2009 Council would like thank our outstanding contestants, judges, host, performers, accompanist and everyone who made Idol 2008 a huge success.

MuhlenbergAdmuhlenberg 9/8/08 10:53 AM Page 1



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Roy | FROM PAGE 11

Following soon thereafter come the two most lyrically conventional songs on the record. It is almost as though they were written specifically for angst-y teen girls to quote in their away messages and scribble throughout their diaries. "Dead But Breathing" sounds literally identical to every Avril Lavigne ballad ever recorded, yet still manages to tug the heart strings a little if you're willing to move past its overwhelming cheesiness and conformist approach to breaking up.

Then there's "Misfit," which upon first hearing, one would swear was a Fefe Dobson song from her self-titled album. In a way, the song can serve as a female alternative to The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus' hit "Face Down." No, it's not the story of a man who beats his girlfriend, but rather about the abuse one inflicts upon him- or her-self in an attempt to feel alive. "See the one nobody wanted, shattered by a world of lies, see the misfit in the mirror die," sings Roy.

It's a noble effort on her part to bring awareness to these situations, but I can't help but not take the song seriously. Even though I'm sure it was

written during a very troubled time in her life, the lyrics are just so ridiculously over-the-top that it sounds like a parody of every emo song ever written. Getting my twenty-year-old cynical male opinion out of the way though, the song is guaranteed to serve as the music of a few dozen hot pink skull-decorated MySpace profiles.

While Roy's debut album is nothing we haven't heard a million times before, it's still a rather decent pop record. Her lack of lyrical originality is made up for with her unique overly raspy voice that allows her to be half rock star and half belting diva. Unless you're a die-hard fan though, the songs do begin to blend together and sound the same after a while. It gets to the point where you want to throw a Prozac prescription at her and tell her to move on with her life.

However, I must give the album credit for completely achieving the goal of appealing to a certain audience demographic, because it can easily be the launching point to Roy's inevitable stardom amongst outcast teenagers. It just goes to show that with a little emotional overflow and a guitar, you too can make a name for yourself in today's MTV-infused world.



# 'Berg sticks it to the Rangers

By Daniel Wayne  
WEEKLY SPORTS EDITOR

In last Wednesday's match up with the Middle Atlantic Region's fifth ranked Drew Rangers, the Men's Soccer Team came out on top. Despite being ranked tenth in the Region at the start of the game, the Mules began the game with unprecedented intensity and fury.

This rediscovered intensity manifested itself in the likeness of senior fullback A.J. Barnold. His aggressive defensive play, consisting mainly of headers that ended Rangers' offensive attacks, quickly became the backbone of the Mule's game plan.

"Our two backs played well," explained head coach Sean Topping. "(Barnold and junior Sam Hayden) are a big two and they cleared a lot of balls that came from the air."

While Berg's defensive play was crucial to the team's 2-1 victory, the Mules' offensive rigor was equally important. Shining in goal-scoring glory were junior forward Eric Miller and sophomore striker Tommy Reilly.

Capitalizing first on his scoring chances was Miller. Just a little over ten minutes into the

match, Miller received a pass from Barnold. After a quick dribble towards the goal, he fired a shot that flew magnificently past the Drew goalkeeper and ended up in the top corner of the goal opposite from where he stood.

"Eric had a great goal tonight," said Topping of his forward who has scored in consecutive games. "He is really starting to break out and we hope he continues scoring down the stretch (of the rest of the season)."

After the Rangers responded with a goal of their own a few minutes later, the game turned into a physically aggressive contest. Excelling in this part of the match was senior goalkeeper Joe Gogel. "When the ball gets into the box, it is my job to go up and get it," Gogel explained. "While it is an advantage that I get to use my hands, aggressiveness is a must and if it results in my slamming into another player, then that is the way it is."

This hard-hitting play continued through the end of the first half and into the beginning of the second. Only nine minutes into the second half, the aggressive nature of Drew's attack became detrimental to their chances of victory. After cre-

ating a turnover in their defensive zone, the Mules began their aggressive, quick march down the field. At the end of this march was Reilly's speed and left foot.

Upon the reception of Miller's pass, Reilly blew past the last remaining Ranger defender and forced the opposing goalie to come out of his box and challenge the ball. This challenge was of no use because upon the goalie's first move, Reilly fired a shot that curved around the rushing goalie and landed in the back of the net.

In response to scoring what was ultimately the game-winning goal, Reilly expressed his excitement. "It's an awesome feeling scoring the goal that finishes an offensive attack and it only gets better when that goal ends up being the deciding factor in the match."

The Mules played McDaniel College on the following Saturday and came away with another Centennial Conference victory. These two wins have brought the Mules to a record of 8-4-1 overall and a 3-2-1 record in the Conference.

On the horizon for Men's Soccer is The College of New Jersey Lions (7-7-2) on Wed. and a match-up with Haverford on Sat.



Junior forward Adison Weseloh blows past an aggressive but futile Drew player.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Sports Schedule

### Field Hockey

Fri., Oct. 24

vs. Franklin & Marshall 7:00

### Women's Soccer

Sat., Oct. 25

vs. Franklin & Marshall, 7:00

### Volleyball

Sat., Oct. 25

vs. Franklin & Marshall, 12:00

### Football

Sat., Oct. 25

vs. Franklin & Marshall, 1:00

### Men's Soccer

Sat., Oct. 25

vs. Haverford, 4:00

# Over the ropes

By Ben Levine  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Rocky Marciano is the only heavyweight boxer to ever end his career without losing a professional bout. He knocked out forty-three boxers in his forty-nine victories. Much controversy has surrounded Marciano. His skill has been called into question because there was a seeming lack of talent in his era.

However, on Oct. 26, 1951, Marciano fought the former heavyweight champion Joe Louis. Louis stepped into the ring at Madison Square Garden well past his prime. Friends of Louis begged him not to fight.

Throughout his career, Louis showed a propensity for not knowing when to quit. In Louis' elderly state, he could be seriously hurt by the 36-0 Marciano. However, Louis had no choice due to an accumulation of back taxes.

Despite being a 6 to 5 favorite, few boxing insiders believed he had a chance. The fight was a classic street brawl. Marciano's strategy throughout his career was to take and give punches. Louis, at 37 years-old, did not display his usual speed, but for the first four rounds he held his own.

Marciano was particularly aggressive and came at Louis from the opening bell. Louis was in a perpetual state of retreat.

Marciano's relentless nature quickly tired the aging Louis, who in turn became increasingly stagnant. Marciano was fueled by the sight of the struggling Louis.

After the fourth round, Louis was practically glued to the ropes. Marciano finished the job in the eighth round. Louis stumbled back from a right uppercut by Marciano. He staggered back to the ropes.

Marciano raised his head to see Louis sitting on the middle rope. With a powering right hook, Marciano knocked his childhood hero out of the ring. Judges and spectators quickly ran to pick up the fallen Louis.

Louis' fall out of the ring was a fall from grace. He was not the first and not the last boxer to fight after retirement for money, but he was the most memorable. Before the fight Marciano said, "This is the last guy on earth I want to fight." Afterwards, he showed similar regret, as did all boxing fans, when they saw their hero fall from glory and the ring.

# Sacrifice rewarded

By Ben Levine  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

On Oct. 16, 1968, Tommie Smith won the gold medal in the 200 meter race. Despite setting a world record, the last thing on his mind was his performance.

The world watched as Tommie Smith, Peter Norman and John Carlos walked to the podium. They were attired in their countries' jumpsuits and each wore an "Olympic Project for Human Rights" badge. The two black athletes, Carlos and Smith, were dressed symbolically. Norman, a white athlete who supported the message of Carlos and Smith, wore the badge to show his support.

Smith and Carlos were shoeless. They wore black socks to represent black poverty. While Smith wore a black scarf to symbolize black pride, Carlos unzipped his jacket to express support of blue collar workers. After they received their medals, they each raised a hand covered in a black glove in the black-power salute.

Upon descending the podium, they were booed by the crowd. The IOC president, Avery Brundage (who allowed the use of the Nazi salute in the 1936 Olympic Games), expelled Smith and Carlos from the

Olympic Games, the Olympic Village, and stripped them of their medals in response to their protest. Smith later stated, "If I win, I am American, not a black American... We are black and we are proud of being black. Black America will understand what we did tonight." In the United States, they received further criticism and frequent death threats.

Peter Norman was ostracized when he returned to Australia. He was denied a spot on the 1972 Australian Summer Olympic team even though he finished third in the trials. When Norman died of a heart attack in 2006, Smith and Carlos were pallbearers and delivered eulogies at his funeral.

Since, John Carlos and Tommie Smith received the "Arthur Ashe Award for Courage" presented annually at the ESPY Awards. In 2005, a statue at San Jose State University was unveiled depicting Smith and Carlos on the podium in 1968.

Tommie Smith, Peter Norman, and John Carlos risked their reputations to state their frustration with injustice. Although the recognition took far too long, they are finally receiving credit for their sacrifices.

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# Longhorns test the gauntlet; Nittany Lions try to silence their critics

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Will another #1 fall this weekend? That is up to coach Mike Gundy and his #6 Oklahoma State team. Everyone remembers Gundy's rant last year when he yelled "I'm a man, I'm 40, come after me..." as he tried to protect his backup quarterback Bobby Reid, who is now at D1 FCS Texas Southern. But the funny thing is, Gundy is now 41 and has a great football team, led by quarterback Zac Robinson.

Two weekends ago, the Cowboys knocked off, then, #3 Missouri 28-23, but this weekend will be an even a bigger test as they travel to Austin to take on Mack Brown's #1 Texas Longhorn squad. The past two weekends, Texas has beaten then #1 Oklahoma and #11 Missouri, no easy feat.

The Longhorns have proved they are the real deal, but can they fight through their remaining schedule? This weekend, they will take on #6 Oklahoma State and then next weekend they will travel to Lubbock, TX to play the high powered offense of #8 Texas Tech.

If they make it through these two games they will then travel to Kansas to take on the #23 Jayhawks. Also sprinkle in a game versus Baylor and a season finale against arch rival Texas A&M. Finally, if they make it through all those games unbeaten they will have a rematch with either Kansas or Missouri on Dec. 6 in the Big 12 Championship game at Arrowhead Stadium.

Talk about an impossible run! That being said, Colt McCoy, who has totaled for 25 touchdowns this year, will rally his troops come 3:30 on Sat. (ABC) and lead the Longhorns to another win over a top 12 team.

Fun Fact: Texas has only scored under 45 once this year (38-14 win over Colorado)

Texas 45, Oklahoma State 31

The game that I know all Penn State fans have circled on the calendar this year will be this weekend at 8 p.m. on ABC. The Nittany Lions travel to Columbus, OH to take on the Buckeyes of Ohio State. PSU enters the game at 8-0 and ranked #3 in the polls, but many people have criticized Joe Pa's club because they haven't had any impressive wins.

Regardless of who they have beaten, quarterback Daryll Clark and running back Evan Royster are the real deal. Clark, who beat out highly touted Pat Devlin for the starting job, has been almost flawless this season throwing for 11 touchdowns and only 2 interceptions, but also has run for 8 touchdowns. Royster has run for 893 yards and 10 touchdowns so far this year. Ohio State enters the game at 7-1 with their only blemish coming at the hands of USC, 35-3.

However, the Buckeyes are 5-0 since handing over the reigns to freshman phenom Terrelle Pryor. Pryor is a dual-threat quarterback who can beat you through the air or on the ground. Also, Chris "Beanie" Wells seems to be completely healthy after the foot injury he sustained against Ohio, as he ran for 140 yards last weekend against Michigan State. This game will definitely be hard fought and down to the wire.

Fun Fact: Penn State has not won at Ohio State since 1978

Ohio State 23, Penn St. 20

Upset Special- #23 Kansas over #8 Texas Tech (Sat. at 12 p.m. on ABC)

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# Mules sweep a double win

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Women's Volleyball Team had a double win last Saturday, sweeping Albright (25-13, 25-14, 25-10) and Wilkes (25-19, 25-21, 25-19). The victories put the Mules' record at 15-8, reaching the 15-win mark for the first time since 2001.

The three-set sweeps helped the team rebound from a tough loss to Moravian prior to Saturday's match. The Mules fell to the Greyhounds on Oct. 15, winning the first two sets but falling behind in the final three sets of the game (25-17, 27-25, 25-27, 14-25, 12-25).

"We had a disappointing loss at Moravian, so we wanted to come back and prove to ourselves that we had our game back," said junior hitter Liz

Dean. Dean had an impressive 16 kills without error in the Saturday match against Albright. Junior Christina Cangelosi added 14 digs, and senior setter Megan Eiser had 28 assists.

Junior Phylcia Lee posted a double-double performance in the match against Wilkes, posting 10 kills and 12 digs. Freshman Jackie Price contributed four blocks in the win.

In other news, Eiser was named Volleyball Player of the Week on Oct. 14. She recorded a career high 48 assists at Swarthmore (Oct. 7) and reached the career milestones of 2,000 assists and 900 digs in the Washington match (Oct. 9). Eiser is only the third member of the "A2K" club in Muhlenberg history.



Senior co-captains Meghan Eiser (left) and Danielle Losonci (right).

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

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## S P **M** O R T S

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# Mules win at McDaniel for the first time in 20 years

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The last time Muhlenberg won in Westminster, MD, over half the players on the current Mules squad were not born yet. The year was 1988 and McDaniel College was called Western Maryland College, but history was rewritten this weekend as the Mules (6-0, 4-0) cruised to an impressive 49-6 victory over the McDaniel Green Terror (2-4, 1-3).

After an impressive drive by the Green Terror in the first quarter, which ended with a 51 yard run by TJ Devlin, the Mules defense buckled down and only allowed 112 yards the rest of the game. Muhlenberg trailed 6-0 after the first quarter but was knocking on the door early in the second quarter. Just a minute into the second quarter, senior quarterback Eric Santagato capped off an impressive 14 play, 78 yard drive with a 22 yard scamper to give the Mules a 7-6 lead.

On McDaniel's next drive, junior cornerback Cameron Ahouse picked off Zach Swope's pass and returned it 51 yards for his second career interception return for a touchdown. Senior Dave Mazzola set up the Mules for their next score as he boomed a 64 yard punt that pinned the Green Terror at their 2 yard line. After a 3 and out, the Mules had great field position and took full advantage of it. Santagato connected with his former high school teammate, senior wide receiver Joe Caporoso, on a 14 yard touchdown pass. This put Muhlenberg up comfortably 21-6 at the half.

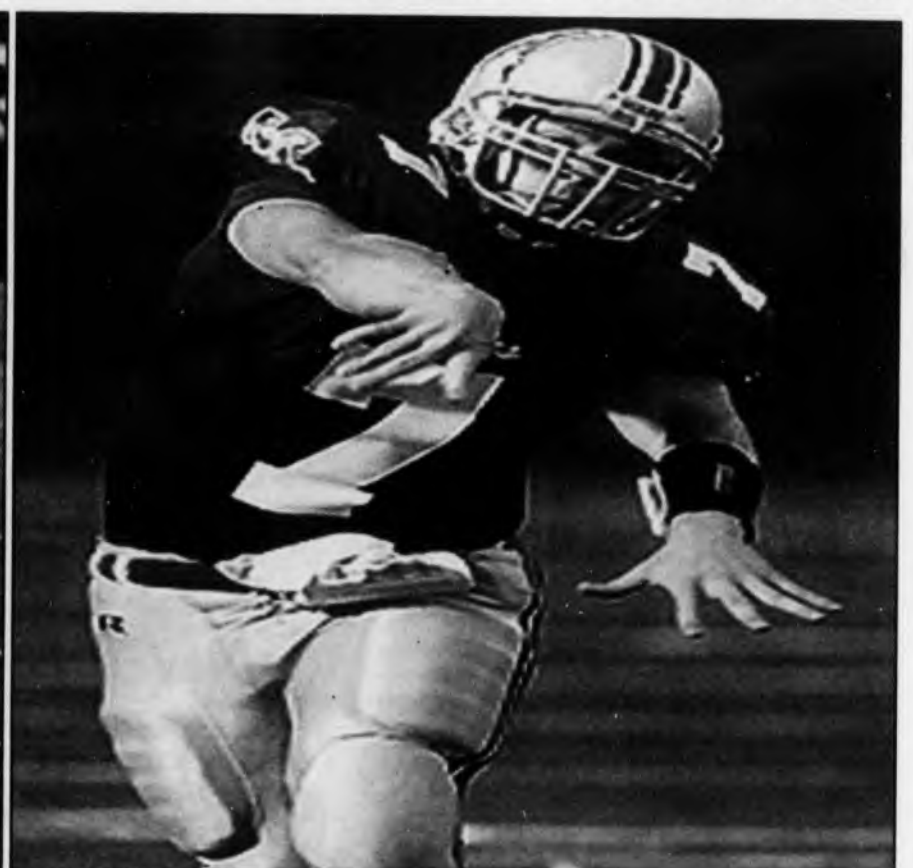
The Mules came out of the locker room fired up and ready to add to their lead. Their first two possessions started in McDaniel's territory and both

ended in the same place: the end zone. Senior running back John DeLuca finished off the 6 play, 43 yard drive with a 2 yard touchdown run. On McDaniel's ensuing possession, Mazzola recovered a fumble, and on the next snap Santagato hit junior wide receiver Phil Cresta on a 32 yard touchdown pass. Cresta has now scored a touchdown in seven consecutive games.

After another defensive stop, DeLuca only needed 1 play to find the end zone as he broke a career best 72 yard run for a touchdown. DeLuca would add another touchdown at the end of the third quarter as the Mules rolled to a 49-6 victory.

DeLuca had a day for the record books. Not only did he rush for 3 touchdowns, but he also ran for a career best 242 yards. His previous best was 188 yards against Franklin & Marshall last year. DeLuca is now only 64 yards away from his second consecutive 1,000 yard season and he ranks second in school history with 28 career rushing touchdowns. Also this weekend's performance earned DeLuca Centennial Conference Offensive Player of the Week for the fourth time in his career.

Now the Mules, ranked #5 in the nation by D3football.com, turn their attention to the Diplomats of Franklin & Marshall. F&M enters this weekend at 3-3 overall and 2-2 in Centennial Conference play. Last year, the Mules beat the Dips 31-0 in Lancaster. F&M has proved to be one of the toughest defenses in the country. However, they will come to Scotty Wood Stadium with a winless road record (0-3). Parent's Weekend should have a treat in store come Sat. at 1 p.m., when the Mules take on the Diplomats.



Left: Senior running back John DeLuca rushed for a career high 242 yards and produced 3 touchdowns. He received C.C. Offensive Player of the Week awards; Right: Senior quarterback Eric Santagato threw for 122 yards and 2 touchdowns.



# Shoutout: shining light on race

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The first BSA "Shoutout," held on Mon., Oct 27, was an open forum in which students and faculty were encouraged to discuss how race has become present in issues in the upcoming presidential election. Co-sponsored by the Black Student Association, the Center for Ethics and Theta Nu Xi, this event, entitled "The Race Shines Light on Race," was moderated by Professor Holly Cate of the College's Theatre and Dance Department.

Present to introduce Professor Cate was Eric Thompson '10, co-president of the BSA. Professor Cate introduced the forum by explaining the process behind its preparation. She, along with student members of the BSA, asked numerous professors on campus to submit questions about race as it pertains to the election that could be used to lead discussion. Many of these professors were in attendance at the forum, as were other prominent members of the College community including President Helm and Dean Green.

Professor Cate began the discussion with a question regarding the media's effect on how race is portrayed in this election, and how this portrayal affects the focus of the election. Despite numerous pre-submitted questions, this was the first and only one to be presented to the attendees, many of whom had a lot to say on the subject.

The discussion began when one student acknowledged her interest in seeing how people in foreign countries feel about our election race, which lead to numerous comments regarding Democratic presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama as a black American, despite his actual biracial background. Students discussed Obama's background as it is portrayed by the

media. One brought up the fact that no one seems to want to hear what Obama himself has to say about his race. "It's all about what other people want to say about his identity," said Adrian Shanker '09, Co-President of both the College Democrats and The Gay-Straight Alliance, of the current election and its analysis of each of the candidates. The media itself seems to have made the choice to portray Obama as black rather than biracial. Many students speculated as to why this has been the choice.

This type of speculation occurred steadily throughout the forum, and not only on issues of race and the media. The discussion incorporated other issues present in the election, including gender and class. One that many students had a strong opinion about was the interchange between racial and gender biases in the election. Students expressed that while race clouds a lot of what we should be looking at in this election, gender issues arise when the public compares men and women in power as well.

An interesting comparison that was brought up in relation to these gender and race issues was that of the candidates and their willingness to "identify" with their public. Obama has been careful to say that he is not speaking on behalf of all blacks in the United States, as it would be a political risk with the race issue at hand to seem 'self serving' or serving only to the 'black community.' Republican Vice-Presidential Candidate Governor Sarah Palin, however, has repeatedly identified herself not only as a voice for everyday "Joe Six-Packs" and "hockey moms" but with American women as a whole, just as Senator Hilary Clinton did in the Democratic Primaries.

Another component of the election was found in the traditionalism of American citizens. While many students stated that they will be voting on Nov. 4 based on their beliefs that a candidate represents them and their ideas, not solely based on race, it was agreed upon that many uneducated or simply traditional older voters will make their decision based entirely on the race factor. The white male President is seen as "the good guy" simply because it is what we as a country are used to. Republican Presidential Candidate Senator John McCain fits this model of comfort and normalcy for many American citizens, while Senator Obama shakes up this tradition.

"So what?" one student responded, continuing to say that what matters is the candidate's platform, not his race. This election is about much more than black versus white, just as it is about more than candidate's "inexperience" as it is portrayed in the media or gender issues.

One of the final student remarks centered on the name of the forum: "The Race Shines Light on Race." Whose race are we shining light on, she wondered, as this election has brought out a focus on race not only for blacks, but for whites as well, many of whom must come to terms with the possibility that someone who is unlike them racially could be the next president.

Professor Cate concluded the forum by thanking the students and staff for attending and proving that the College is clearly filled with educated and intrigued voters. She suggested that the BSA host another forum in February, after the election and inauguration of our new President, to discuss these issues in light of more developments, an event which would promise to be just as thought provoking as this first BSA Shoutout.

*"...what matters is the candidate's platform, not his race. This election is about much more than black versus white..."*

**The Muhlenberg College Democrats will be hosting Vice Presidential Candidate Senator Joe Biden for a "Get Out the Vote" rally on Thursday, October 30 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall.**

This event is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required, and seating is on a first come, first served basis. An RSVP is strongly encouraged. To RSVP, please visit [pa.barackobama.com](http://pa.barackobama.com). Please enter Memorial Hall via the Liberty Street entrance. Doors will open at 5 p.m. The Solar Corridor of the Life Sports Center will be closed. There will be either a partial or full closing of the ML parking lot. More information to come. There will be no parking on Liberty Street on Thursday from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. For security reasons, do not bring bags and limit personal items. No umbrellas, signs or banners permitted. For more information, please contact Adrian Shanker ([adrian.shanker@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:adrian.shanker@muhlenberg.edu)) or visit [pa.barackobama.com](http://pa.barackobama.com).



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## Where does the time go?

Time flies, whether we're having fun or not. College is a whirlwind of studying mixed in with, well let's say, some good times. But we are sure you'll agree that it's going by awfully fast.

Didn't we just start? Wasn't it just our first day of college, when we had to awkwardly make new friends and try not to confuse Moyer with Miller? We remember how we said "hello" to anyone and everyone, hoping to make a bf. Sadly, we seem to be locked in our own little groups now, but that's another story.

It's Halloween for crying out loud. Which means the beginning of November, which equals Thanksgiving, which equals a couple of weeks left in the semester. We panic just thinking about it. Of course we are ready for a break, but some of us have barely began work on long-term assignments, breaking our promises to ourselves not to procrastinate like always. That thirty page paper looming over your head all of a sudden. You're welcome.

And registration?! That one came out of nowhere. A curveball thrown right at us, we find ourselves scrambling to make advising appointments. And seniors are desperately calculating credits, hoping and praying they have enough to graduate. So much to do in so little time...the weather isn't helping. While the ominous wind and rain are great for Halloween, they are not so comforting when they remind us how late it is getting in the semester. We associate the miserable cold with miserable stress. Maybe that's why it's more difficult to get up in the morning, or maybe it's because there is no more sunlight streaming through our windows.

There's no stopping it. We are waiting to "fall back," and before we know it, it will be time to "spring forward." We just need to stay on top of things. How embarrassing would it be if a senior didn't graduate because she forgot to take that darn religion class?

But seniors aren't the only ones stressing. Freshmen and sophomores have to decide their entire futures pretty soon.

The moral here? Don't wait too long to do anything. College goes by all too fast, both the good and the bad.

## Learning from our mistakes: defending the Bush Doctrine

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

As the end of President George W. Bush's second term is approaching and the eve of the heated 2008 Presidential Election is around

the corner it is hard to ignore the ever intensifying debate over foreign policy. Throughout President Bush's presidency it has been hard to ignore the sharp criticism he had to endure in regards to his Neoconservative principles. The President's name has become synonymous with the phrase "American imperialism." Unfortunately, many left wingers have denied to seriously examine the facts and history of former American foreign policy.

The key to understanding the case for preemptive war lies in the history of American national security failures. The idea of the United States having a purely defensive strategy is naïve. This policy of waiting for the fight to come to our homeland has directly led to loss of American lives.

During President Bill Clinton's administration there were three attacks that resulted in hundreds of murdered Americans. The 1993 World Trade Center bombing, the destruction of the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998, and the attack on the U.S.S. Cole in Yemen in 1999 resulted in little or no response from the American government. Over 200 Americans were murdered during these acts of war. Of course the first WTC bombing was not serious enough for action, neither were the embassy attacks, and the loss of 17 sailors certainly did not call for a new security strategy. How many attacks did the Clinton administration need to justify taking more preventative measures?

By the time President Clinton left office there were new threats brewing across the world and now the mess he left behind was dumped in the lap of George W. Bush. Throughout the 1990's the extremists saw America backing down and retreating. As we pulled back, our enemies prepared to strike.

On September 11, 2001 the World Trade Center and the Pentagon fell victim to vicious terrorist attacks. President Bush quickly mobilized the nation. The situation called for a decisive leader who was not willing to take any more chances. History clearly proved that inaction

*This policy of waiting for the fight to come to our homeland has directly led to loss of American lives.*

SEE BUSH  
PAGE 4

## The stakes are just too high this year

By Adrian Shanker  
WEEKLY WRITER

The stakes are just too high this year. There is no other way to describe it other than reminding ourselves how amazing it is that we just survived eight horrible years under George W. Bush, the worst President in U.S. history.

Barack Obama was not my first choice to be the Democratic nominee, I was actually a staunch supporter of Congressman Dennis Kucinich's campaign - but I know, as do my friends who supported Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, and the all-star lineup of other Democrat hopefuls, that the time has come to elect Barack Obama as the next President of the United States. But we cannot stop there. Barack Obama's plans for change will never be accomplished without Democrats retaining control of Congress.

Here in the Lehigh Valley, we have Congressman Charles W. Dent elected to represent us, as students

at the College, in D.C. Not only does Congressman Dent contribute to the Republican Party message, he clearly fails to represent us on any level. Some of his most heinous votes include his vote against S-Chip (Heath Insurance for low income children), his support for and vote for the Federal Marriage Amendment to deny same-sex couples equal rights, his vote against the Employee Free Choice Act (rights of workers to organize), and his support for President Bush on the War in Iraq 100% of the time.

It is great that we live in America, where we can vote members of Congress with these bad voting records out of office. Dent's opponent, Sam Bennett, is a 20 year resident of Allentown, who has been endorsed by Hillary Clinton, over 20 labor unions including the AFL-CIO, Three environmental organizations, two Pro-Israel organizations, many women's advocacy organizations, and more.

Sam Bennett is someone who will help Barack Obama and Joe Biden

bring their message of Change from the Oval Office to the offices all over America, from Pennsylvania Avenue, to Main Street, from the halls of Congress to the halls of our public schools.

Don't be fooled by Charles Dent's negative smears on Sam Bennett, I have worked closely with her on the campaign since April, and I know that when she goes to Washington, she will be the voice for our needs. She knows the College well, having a daughter who went here for a few years and as a former spouse of a faculty member.

Sam understands that healthcare is a right and not a privilege, that the cost of college is just too high, that equality is worth fighting for, that the right to choice should never be taken away, that workers have rights too, that corporations are not people - and shouldn't control elections, and so much more. Sam Bennett gets it, Charlie Dent simply does not. He is a nice guy, and he isn't the worst of the worst (like Sarah Palin?) but Charlie Dent must

go.

If you don't vote this election, how much will you regret that later? We need Barack and Joe in the White House. We need Sam Bennett in Congress. We need to re-elect Jennifer Mann to the State House of Representatives, we need to vote yes on the Allentown Ballot Initiative to let City Council determine how to spend the City's money - we need to elect all Democrats on November 4th. Don't stop at the top. This year vote Democrat all the way.

Voting is not enough though. We need you to volunteer on Election Day. Take off work, skip class (tell your professors though), don't sleep in, we need you and the country needs you to help us deliver PA for Barack Obama. If you volunteer four or more hours with the College Democrats, you even get a free T-Shirt. Email me asap to sign up to help us win this year. Because waking up on November 5th to a McCain-Palin victory would guarantee our unhappiness and misery for the next four years.



# One last endorsement for Barack Obama



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

The election is finally upon us, meaning it is time to get my last article in expressing why you should vote for Barack Obama. It has been a seemingly endless road to the White House, but Obama has proven that he is the superior candidate, and is the right choice to lead America during these troubling times.

Many people thought the grueling Democratic primaries would tire Obama out and hurt his candidacy

due to the prolonged attacks he faced from Hillary Clinton. Yet, in the end it appears the primaries made him stronger, allowed his vision for America to be expressed clearer, and gave him confidence. If he could beat the Clinton political machine, then why couldn't he beat the poorly run John McCain campaign?

John McCain's attempted running the 2000 and 2004 playbook that led to victories for George W. Bush, yet Barack Obama isn't Al Gore or John Kerry. Americans aren't falling into the traditional fear tactics of the Republican Party. As the economy is crumbling around us, people are starting to recognize the every man for himself policies McCain supports aren't going to work.

They don't buy McCain calling Obama a socialist because he wants the government to help people out of this crisis. Beyond that, most of America is tired of watching the rich get richer. Any way you look at it; John McCain is still giving tax

breaks to millionaires while leaving the middle class to fend for themselves.

In terms of foreign policy, Obama is ready to begin withdrawing troops from Iraq. He is more concerned with turning his focus to Afghanistan, which is slowly falling apart, and its bordering nation, Pakistan. John McCain is stubbornly attached to the Iraq War and the Bush unilateral, hostile approach to the rest of the world.

Obama is ready to strengthen our alliances and improve our worldwide image. McCain is ready to act with unilateral hostility towards Russia and Iran, an approach which had no success under President Bush.

John McCain showed highly questionable judgment with his vice-presidential selection. Sarah Palin is insanely unprepared to hold an office as high as Vice President, never mind be President of this

country. Her selection was blatant pandering to the radical Evangelical wing of the Republican Party, and has isolated many moderate Republicans from supporting McCain. Barack Obama showed good judgment by selecting a running mate who is highly experience in foreign affairs and has bi-partisan respect in Washington.

If you want more of the same problems we had with a President who currently has a 25 percent approval rating, vote for John McCain. If you think the government should sit on their hands while the economy implodes, then vote for

John McCain. If you like watching your tax dollars go directly to Baghdad, then vote for John McCain. Yet, if you think with proper management America can give healthcare to all its citizens, can work with and lead other nations in foreign affairs, and should work for the struggling middle class instead of the wealthiest one percent of Americans, then vote for Barack Obama.

*Obama has proven that he is the superior candidate to John McCain, and is the right choice to lead America during these troubling times.*

*With proper management America can give healthcare to all citizens, can work with other nations, and work for the struggling middle class*

## Smear tactics: enough's enough

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY WRITER

Recently I told Patti Mittleman, the Jewish chaplain, about how I'm getting tired of this run-up to the election and how I just want it to end. She responded, "When Mr. Politics gets tired of it, you know that America is getting tired of it." She called me that because I usually talk about some election issue with her every time I see her, and she's right about how we're all tired of it. Even the most eager follower of politics has gotten weary of the back-and-forth mudslinging going on between the campaigns. It seemed so long ago when Cindy McCain said that this would be one of the cleanest campaigns in history; instead, it's been the exact opposite. John McCain has been banking on almost exclusively negative campaigning since October when the stock market took a downturn for reasons that a simple economic mind like mine still doesn't completely understand.

The lowest blows from the McCain campaign have been ones attacking Barack Obama as some kind of "other," someone who is anti-American. This has been going on since the beginning of October, when the stock market took a downturn that it still has not gotten out of. This reeks of a desperation move: McCain senses the backlash towards his party, which has been in power for the last eight years (and let's face it, the president has had far more power than Congress during that time). Because he may think that he can't change people's minds on the economy due to that "R" next to his name, he wants to change the subject. The problem is that people aren't buying it. As history has proven, troubled economic times trump all other concerns, and guilt-by-association techniques and ludicrous attacks on patriotism are not things that people want to hear.

Call me crazy, but if someone is running for public office, especially the most prestigious office in the world, then it seems to me that loving the United States goes without saying. American politicians from both parties are the most patriotic Americans because they are carrying out democracy. An investigation into anti-Americanism in Congress, as Republican Michelle Bachmann called for on MSNBC, is paranoid and wrong to do in this time of economic strife. So let's not talk about how Obama is a Muslim (as if American and Muslim are two mutually exclusive things) or about how McCain will attack another country because he's unstable. On November 4, let's vote on who we think is the best candidate on the issues.

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY Serving The Muhlenberg Community Since 1883

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Opinions expressed in the OP/ED section of this newspaper are solely those of the author. *The Weekly* reserves the right to edit all pieces for grammatical, spacing and legal purposes. The Editor-in-Chief has final jurisdiction on whether a Letter to the Editor or article is printed. Deadline for submission is Sunday proceeding publication by 7:00 p.m.

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# Why I did it

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

A number of students are asking, "why did I take action against the "Voter Education Forum" last Tuesday?" Let me express to you the rage I am feeling about this censored validation of fascism called an "election."

The fact that, with some weeks notice, the student organizers of the forum decided to ban independent campaigns onstage, student and non-student participation, and a voice, while subordinating democracy to a table in the lobby of Miller

*The targeted deprivation of a national people, a genocide, will be committed by your hands when you vote for your black man run white.*

Forum, my friends, is just the beginning. Concerned students' petition and persuasion could not convince the leadership of College Democrats, College Republicans, EnAct, and Muhlenberg International Relations Council to take action to ensure that the virtues of democracy we share in our hearts could be protected. They subverted your trust and presented to you, instead, propaganda from the two-party regime that cannot be criticized due to media, dependence, and fear endemic in our society and at our College. There is a war going on for our minds and we are losing.

At the event, their armed police guards, Dean of Students, and Social Code threats turned some of us away. But for the rest in the vacuum, they

sold you corporate carbon trade, big sticks, and war profits. They diverted and dodged justice and peace in the Middle East.

If only the right politician was in charge, we could have a more just society. If only the right party was in charge, would our rulers be able to put the people first. But the truth is that every dictator has risen to power by the consent of the people. I ask, at what point does the state and its elitist allies become so powerful and oppressive that we stop voting for it?

For liberals, your Messiah, your savior, your "change" that you can believe in is going to force poor people to still pay for health care, to still serve in the poverty draft that persists in our high schools, to still live on the streets without affordable housing as we drop cluster, precise munitions on Iraqi, Palestinian, and Afghani people and pay corporations to clean up our collateral waste. Private prisons, Boeing profit margins, crack laws, militarization, and freedom for our brothers and sisters in solidarity, you'll never catch these things in captions on the CNN in Seegers.

They don't want you to know about the free trade protests, that innocents will die when we sanction Iranian imports and exports of petroleum. The targeted deprivation of a national people, a genocide, will be committed by your hands when you vote for your black man run white. When we commit to nuclear energy, no geological structure will contain your waste. No "clean" process will emancipate us from carbon. Carbon

*I ask, at what point does the state and its elitist allies become so powerful and oppressive that we stop voting for it?*

trade will put Citibank's board on a clean coal cruise, not a pirate's plank, while the poorest among us struggle for decades against corporate energy experiments.

For conservatives, small government doesn't mean freedom to assault the struggling, to surveil the dissenters. A security state is unacceptable. And I will resist your illegitimate authority authenticated by tear gas, predatory loans, and immigration raids. Your staff can strike us, but we're not sheep. We are lions with nothing to lose but our chains.

It's time that we stop following their flutes, borrowing their loot, and organize from the roots. Because the people can have everything they want, they just have to want it. Put down this paper and read, read about your country and what it has done. Prevent the next vigil and let those flag draped coffins rot empty in the warehouses.

It starts "We the people", not we the corporations, we the police, or we the bureaucrat. We can fight with the academic tools the education industry has entrusted us with to serve the corporations endowing our servitude. The WTO, FTAA, SPP, NAFTA, and IMF are our generation's acronyms of responsibility.

Use your privileges strategically and we can win. Read, write, and resist. Then, when their box stores have fallen, we'll make gardens from parking lots, and art from their airwaves.

## BUSH

FROM PAGE 2

leads to failure. After eight years of national security blunders, the United States deserved a new approach, one in which America does not react but acts. The new Bush Doctrine has been far more successful than it has been portrayed by the left. After the initiation of preemptive force, the United States has not been attacked since 9/11. Instead, the U.S. and its allies have foiled over a dozen terrorist plots.

The liberal, multilateral policies had their chance and they let the United States of America down. We must take the lessons of the past to heart. President Bush and today's neo-conservative are justified in their support for preventative action. Ronald Reagan summed up the underlying principles of the Bush Doctrine in a 1964 speech, "If we continue to accommodate, continue to back and retreat, eventually we have to face the final demand—the ultimatum...there is a price we will not pay. There is a point beyond which they must not advance."

*The liberal, multilateral policies had their chance and they let the United States of America down.*

Life is calling. How far will you go?

Peace Corps will be on campus  
Monday, November 3.

Come learn more and hear stories  
from a former Peace Corps Volunteer.

**Peace Corps Information Session**

Monday, November 3

Moyer 209

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Peace Corps volunteers work in 74 countries. To date, 86 Muhlenberg graduates have served in the Peace Corps.

Apply Online Now!

The application process takes 8-12 months to complete.

[www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)



Write for OP/ED!  
Share your opinions!

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**DON'T STOP AT THE TOP  
VOTE FOR CHANGE**



**FREE  
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Allentown Ballot Initiative  
**November 4th**

**Why Sam Bennett for Congress?**

- Because the War in Iraq must end
- Because healthcare is a right, not a privilege
- Because college needs to be more affordable
- Because we need renewable energy NOW
- Because peace in the Middle East is attainable
- Because our public schools can be stronger
- Because we demand equal rights for all

Charles W. Dent has represented corporate interests and not the interests of our community and it is time for a change... NOW

[Check out Sam on facebook or at [Bennett2008.com](http://Bennett2008.com)]



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**Correction!**

Matt Fash and Mike Fau were incorrectly credited for the article "Muhlenberg Idol" in the Oct. 23, 2008 issue of the Weekly. The article was actually a collaboration on the part of the members of the College's Student Council. We apologize for this oversight.

**Weekend Weather**

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Sunny</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>
<b>High: 55 Low: 35</b>	<b>High: 57 Low: 33</b>	<b>High: 51 Low: 31</b>



# "The Talents Entrusted To Our Care"

## First Legacy Scholarship

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

The College has developed a Legacy Scholarship Program in order to continue a tradition of excellence here at the College. This program is designed to increase the number of endowed scholarships that the College offers to deserving students each year. Alumni, parents and friends are strongly encouraged to participate in the program.

Martha Schenkler Knouss '68 is responsible for establishing the College's first Legacy Scholarship in memory of her late husband Robert F. Knouss '66. Mr. Knouss was the former assistant surgeon general in the United States Public Health Service and passed away in July, 2007. Mrs. Knouss revealed that shortly before his death they were talking about ways that their family would be able to remember him. Mrs. Knouss suggested setting up a scholarship at the College and Mr. Knouss replied with an excited, "Fantastic!"

The day after his death the Knouss' daughter Rebecca '00, called the College to enquire about setting up a scholarship. At this time the family was not aware of the Public Health program that the College offers. Mr. Knouss was a dedicated to improving the lives of people everywhere. He served 34 years with the United States Public Health Service in a variety of ways. Just to name a few, as director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness, he directed the National Disaster Medical System and led the federal health response to the attack on the World Trade Centers and the anthrax attack on the Senate office building. He also served as a professional staff member on the Senate Subcommittee on Health. Here he developed legislation instituting national health policies.

At the College, Mr. Knouss majored in Chemistry and graduated *summa cum laude* as valedictorian. Mrs. Knouss revealed that it was Muhlenberg that changed the course of her husband's life. She said that, "He had planned to become a doctor, but his exposure to a liberal arts

education propelled him toward public health and activism." When the family heard of the College's Public Health Minor they thought that it would be the perfect way to honor Mr. Knouss' life.

The Knouss family has truly established a legacy here at the College starting with Mr. Knouss' father Francis '37, Martha and Robert's daughter, Rebecca '00, and Mrs. Knouss' paternal grandfather, father, two sisters and brother. The scholarship that had been endowed by the Knouss family ensures that a Muhlenberg education will be within reach for deserving students.

To conclude, Mrs. Knouss says, "We, as a family, are very excited to hear the dreams and hopes of the students who will be receiving his scholarship in the coming years." The College community would like to extend a thank you to the Knouss family while encouraging other alumni, parents, and friends of the College to follow in the Knouss' footsteps to help make a Muhlenberg education available and affordable to all deserving and capable students.

## You CAN Do It!



## Help Fight Hunger!

Donate canned foods  
now until Wednesday,  
November 12th  
in the Garden Room  
and help break a  
Guinness World Record!

## Thanksgiving Break

All college owned and leased houses, apartments, and residence halls are closing on November 26th at 6:00 p.m. and will re-open on November 30th at 10:00 a.m.

*(There will be no access before 10:00 a.m.)*

The only students permitted to stay on campus are:

- Academic responsibility (i.e.: student teaching)
- International Students
- Students living more than 300 miles from campus
- Athletes with written permission from their coach



If you do not fall into these categories and you are approved to stay, there is a \$25.00 per day charge. A "Request To Stay Over Break Form" must be submitted by every student who stays including those students falling into the above categories. Forms are available online at: [www.muhs.edu/mgt/resserv](http://www.muhs.edu/mgt/resserv) and are due by Monday, November 17th. Late requests will be subject to a \$25.00 fine. If you have any questions please call our office at x3180.

*Please make your travel plans accordingly, and have a safe break!*



# New Professor Spotlight!

## Dr. Hong - Media and Communication

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Yu Hong is a Visiting Instructor in the College's Media and Communication Department. She is teaching three sections of "Introduction to Communication," and plans to offer two sections of the class again next semester in addition to a course entitled "Communication in the Global Community." The course will examine the global expansion of the mass media and how it has increased citizen connections in a worldwide community.

In addition to her teachings, Dr. Hong has recently submitted her dissertation to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she attended graduate school. She has also submitted peer-reviewed articles to both the *International Journal of Communication* and *Javnost - The Public*.

Dr. Hong received her Bachelor's Degree from Zhejiang University in China, moving to the United States in 2001 to attend the University of Illinois. After spending seven years in Illinois, Dr. Hong moved to the Lehigh Valley this past August.

When asked why she selected Muhlenberg as her first full-time teaching job, Dr. Hong recalled that her advisor in graduate school had visited the College many times during her studies.

Through his experiences and investigation of her own, Dr. Hong found the faculty and its areas of research to be highly compatible with her own areas of interest and expertise.

She knew that she would be able to learn a lot from such an experienced faculty, not

only in terms of teaching, but regarding her own research as well.

Dr. Hong's research focus as evidenced by her dissertation, employs social justice and political economic analysis. In 2006, she began her research design, which centers on the exploration of "Chinese working-class formation in high-tech information and communications as a crucial aspect of China's reintegration into transnational capitalism," as it is summed up in her bio on the College's MEDIA and Communication website.

In 2007, Dr. Hong returned to her family in China to do research, interviewing workers at three local factories and collecting data. Using this research, she finished her dissertation this past month.


Between her outside research and teaching, Dr. Hong acknowledged that her first semester at the College has kept her busy. As a Visiting Instructor, she plans to teach here for the rest of the school year, but it is unsure of her plans for the following academic year.

She would enjoy continuing teaching at the College, but is willing to relocate to another College or University as long as it fits well with her research and teaching interests.

She appreciates the manner in which her interests have fit into the department of Media and Communication's research here at the College, and would love to teach in any such department that demands the type of expertise that she has gained through her studies.

The College wishes to welcome Dr. Hong and is happy to have her as a new addition to our expert faculty.

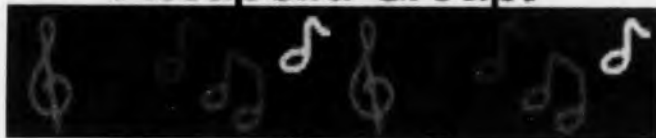
SHARE, the Community Service Office, & Muhlenberg Dining present



**dance  
for a cure**

**Dinner in the Garden Room  
Wednesday November 5th**

**4:30-7:30 PM**  
**Live performances by**  
**Accapella Groups**



**Dance for a Cure**  
**Tickets for Sale**

### OFF CAMPUS

#### *McCain and Palin promise victory*

On Tues Republican Presidential Candidate John McCain and running mate Sarah Palin vowed in front of a Pennsylvania audience that they would pull out an upset win over Democratic rival Barack Obama. McCain stated that he is not afraid of the fight, rather he is ready for it.

Palin explains, "Our opponent is not being candid with you about his tax plans. It's not mean-spirited, and it is not negative campaigning to call someone out on their record." The rally was interrupted by Obama supporters waving signs and to this Palin told them to let them stay because "maybe they'll learn a thing or two."

Seriously lagging behind in polls both nationally and in the battleground states McCain offered some motivational words to his supporters. He said, "...we never give up. Let's go win this election and get this country moving again."

McCain is very adamant about making sure people know that Pennsylvania belongs to the Republicans. He exclaimed, "It's wonderful to be back in Pennsylvania. It's wonderful to fool the pundits because we're going to win the state of Pennsylvania."

To end, McCain left few openings untouched. He even went as far as to bash Obama for airing a 30-minute commercial Wednesday night that will delay the opening of a World Series baseball game if the series goes to six games.

"No one will delay a World Series game with an infomercial when I'm president," said McCain.

#### *White supremacists plotted to kill Obama*

Officials at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives said on Mon, Oct 27 that investigators "disrupted an improbable plan to assassinate" Senator Barack Obama, along with 88 other "black people," which was fueled by the ideology of white supremacy.

A complaint charging Daniel Cowart, 20, and Paul Schlesselman, 18, with conspiracy, possession of an unregistered sawed-off shotgun and making threats against a presidential candidate was released by federal prosecutors in Jackson, Tenn. The two men are now in federal custody.

The men planned to "drive their vehicle as fast as they could toward Obama shooting at him from the windows" with a .308-caliber rifle and another weapon that they planned to steal from a gun store. They also planned to dress in all white tuxedos and wear top hats during the assassination attempt.

Their outlandish plan fell apart quickly, when on Oct. 21 they were deterred from their attempts to rob a gun store by the presence of police and on Oct. 22 were taken into custody for randomly shooting through a church window and drawing swastikas and other "racially motivated words and symbols" on the hood of their car.

Special agent in charge of the Memphis field office of the U.S. Secret Service Richard Harlow said that the agency "takes all threats against presidential candidates seriously."

Officials said that they men are to appear in court today for a detention hearing.



## Campus Safety Notes

Oct. 20 - Suspicious Vehicle - A vehicle was reported to be repeatedly driving past a house on Liberty St. and honking their horn. The driver was identified and spoken to. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 20 - Alarm - A steam leak set off a fire alarm in the Life Sports Center. Plant operations fixed the problem. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 20 - Alarm - A fire alarm was set off in the Center for the Arts by a fog machine. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 20 - Medical - Muhlenberg EMS was dispatched to Prosser Hall in response to a sick student. Health Center was notified but the student refused transportation to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 20 - Vandalism - A student reported that two males were breaking into a car by the Phi Sigma Sigma house. Allentown PD dispatched. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 21 - Unauthorized Person - An unauthorized person was offering to buy back books. Person

described as white male, 5'10" with a dark brown crew cut and a navy blue jacket. Person had left when Campus Police arrived.

Oct. 21 - Vandalism - A card reader on Prosser Hall was ripped off. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 21 - Disorderly Conduct - During a discussion in Moyer Hall, a disruptive student was escorted out of the building. Student was referred to the Dean's office.

Oct. 21 - Found Property - A memory card was found and given to Campus Police.

Oct. 22 - Medical - A sick student on the second floor of Walz Hall was taken to the hospital by MCEMS. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 22 - Alarm - Burnt food set off a fire alarm at 419 Leh St. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 22 - Alarm - Burnt food set off a fire alarm on the fourth floor of Robertson Hall. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 23 - Medical - A sick student on the fourth floor

of Walz Hall was transported to the hospital by MCEMS. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 23 - Alarm - A fire alarm at 2152 Chew St. went off as a result of cooking. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 24 - Fire - An ash barrel outside of Prosser Hall was set on fire. This was the second time students have set an ash barrel on fire. Campus Police offer put out the fire.

Oct. 24 - Found Property - A set of keys was found in the East Hall Quad Area. An officer identified the car they belonged to. Car was not registered. Officer left note on windshield and brought keys to Campus Safety office.

Oct. 24 - Alarm - A fire alarm was set off as a result of a show in the Trexler Pavilion. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 24 - Alarm - A fire alarm was set off on Chew St. as a result of burnt popcorn. No further incident was reported.

Oct 24 - Alarm - Fire Alarm went off due to cooking at 428 Albright Street.

Oct. 25 - Liquor Law - Students were found to have alcohol on the fourth floor of Martin Luther Hall. Students were referred to judicial.

Oct. 25 - Carpentry Problem - Students were stuck in a room on the first floor of Benfer Hall. The door was stuck on the frame. Plant operations called Keystone to fix the problem.

Oct. 25 - Theft - Cushions were stolen from a seat in Seegers Union. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 25 - Dispatch Code - Campus Police was alerted to a sleeping baby in a stroller in Seegers Union. Baby belonged to a Seegers Union worker. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 25 - Electrical Problem - A campus wide power outage was caused by severe storms in the area. Power outage caused an alarm on North 22 St. to go off.

Oct. 25 - Plumbing Problem - Lab furniture in the New Science Building was getting wet as a result of a leaking window. Keystone called for carpenter to fix problem. Housekeeping was called to clean up water.

Oct. 25 - Vandalism - A light was smashed in the elevator in Taylor Hall. A ceiling tile was also reported to have been taken down. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 25 - Liquor Law - It was reported that a loud party was occurring on Albright St. When officers arrived, they found alcohol. Persons involved were referred to Judicial.

Oct. 26 - Noise Complaint - It was reported to Campus Safety that a loud party was occurring on North 22 St. Persons involved were referred to Judicial.

Oct. 26 - Noise Complaint - A complaint was filed about excessive noise coming from a party on Liberty St. Persons involved were referred to Judicial.

Oct. 26 - Vandalism - Broken glass was found in Seegers Union. Housekeeping was called to clean up. It has been determined that a non-student was the perpetrator.

Oct. 26 - Harassment - Students reported being harassed by men in a white car on North 23 St. No further incident was reported.



## IN DECIDING WHICH LAW SCHOOL TO ATTEND, CONSIDER THIS:

Quinnipiac University School of Law ranks among the top 100 law schools in such categories as full-time student LSAT scores (median - 159); admission acceptance rates; student/faculty ratio (11:1); and employment rates after graduation. Not to mention, we offer merit scholarships ranging from \$3,000 to full tuition. Before you decide which school to attend, make sure you review the facts. To learn more, visit [law.quinnipiac.edu](http://law.quinnipiac.edu), email [ladm@quinnipiac.edu](mailto:ladm@quinnipiac.edu) or call 1-800-462-1944.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

~Albert Einstein

## Oklahoma!



The Muhlenberg Theater Association put on their fall production of *Oklahoma!* The fantastic cast was led by Sara Mazes (Aunt Eller), Colin Hooker-Haring (Curly), Christa Wroblewski (Laurey), Dana Lynn Parisi (Ado Annie), Mike Miller (Will Parker), and James Ludlum (Jud Fry).

The production would not have been successful without the rest of the cast, crew, orchestra, and Director Charles Richter.

The show was a huge success and a great addition to Family Weekend.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRENDEN VOTIPKA





# I don't want to hook up with you

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Every weekend I see the same thing; a girl who's clearly not interested, being hit on by a guy who just doesn't get the message. It can be hard to clearly communicate between guys and girls, mostly because the subject can get awkward. More uncomfortable, though, is when a guy makes a move and is straight-up rejected.

There are a few reasons this happens. Girls can sometimes feel badly and be unclear about their intentions.

This leads to them making more friendly conversation, going along with someone who wants to walk them home, or smiling politely as some guy puts their arm around them.

Guys sometimes don't get the signal. There were many times when a girl clearly avoids any physical engagement, and the guy still continues to try.

Also common, is when a guy starts a conversation and the girl unsuccessfully

does her best to disengage herself from it.

The subtle signals of the opposite sex can be hard to pick up on, but here are a few ways for ladies to be clear about what they want, or don't want... and guys can know what to look for (or avoid!) when trying to pick up a chick.

If she isn't smiling, there may be a problem. Talking and getting a blank stare back is also a problem.

There's a good chance that you haven't captured her attention if this is the reaction you're getting.

So girls, if he is creeping you out, try not to laugh or smile at how awkward the situation is, because he may mistake that as you thinking he's funny. Save the smiles for afterwards.

Guys, another bad sign is if she doesn't ask you any questions. If she isn't engaged in the conversation or at least showing a little interest in what you're talking about, it's very possible that she simply isn't interested.

Ladies, don't keep asking him about himself if you simply don't care. Do you really need to know his pet's name or every birthday of every cousin? Use the silence in the conversation to say goodbye, go to the bathroom, find your friends, or get a drink.

Don't keep it going unless you're interested - really interested. A girl who keeps

stepping a little bit more away from you every couple seconds probably isn't into you. If she looks bored, aloof, annoyed or slightly panicked she is really, really not into you.

This means that whatever interaction you two are having is making her uncomfortable and contemplating calling campus safety.

She is probably thinking about ways to leave. Girls, don't get closer to him, or touch his arm or hands if you don't want to talk to him. Leave.

If after you've gotten her number, she doesn't answer or return your phone calls or texts; that is

bad news. No, she's not so busy that she can't use her phone.

It's always a bad sign when your texts are ignored completely, or no matter how many times you've called, she isn't answering the phone or calling you back. Move on, my friend.

Girls, don't text back asking when you're going to hang out again just to be polite. Save him from pursuing you a second time and don't act interested if you're not.

Obviously, everyone shows their interest in different ways, but these are some classic signs to look for if you're not sure where things are going. And girls, if none of these signals get through, there is one more option a friend of mine came up with.

Make a T-Shirt that clearly has "I don't want to hook-up with you" written on it.

Wear it when you go out, and if by chance you meet someone who you do, in fact, want to hook-up with, you can just take the shirt off. The message should be clear as day.



## AMC Weekend Listings



**Pride and Glory**  
Fri. 4:20, 7:15, 10:10  
Sat. 4:20, 7:15, 10:10  
Sun. 4:20, 7:15, 10:10

**Changeling**  
Fri. 4:10, 7:10, 10:05  
Sat. 4:10, 7:10, 10:05  
Sun. 4:10, 7:10, 10:05

**Eagle Eye**  
Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:20  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:20  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

**Zack and Miri Make A Porno**  
Fri. 4:45, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:45, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:45, 7:20, 10:00

**Saw V**  
Fri. 5:10, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:10, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:10, 8:00, 10:30

**The Haunting of Molly Hartley**  
Fri. 4:50, 7:30, 9:40  
Sat. 4:50, 7:30, 9:40  
Sun. 4:50, 7:30, 9:40

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua**  
Fri. 2:20, 4:40, 6:50  
Sat. 2:20, 4:40, 6:50  
Sun. 2:20, 4:40, 6:50

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

### WHICH ON-CAMPUS BUILDING IS YOUR FAVORITE?



"The New Science Building. I spend most of my waking life in there."  
- Joe Pisano, '09



"Prosser because I love my room and I'm blessed with a really good hall of girls who keep me company."  
- Meghan Tynan, '11



"The NSB because science is awesome."  
- Andrew Markham, '09



"New Science Building because it's always open and accessible."  
- Kelly Kirkley, '12



"New Science Building, the Reading Room."  
- Sara Watkins, '11

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# A Non-Visual Love Letter

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

So, what happens when the tour bus (or trailer in this case) of a band on tour blows a tire on the road and is then stuck in four hours of traffic and doesn't arrive for their 6:30 show until 9:45? The audience clears out.

Unfortunately for them, such was the case for Paramore/Flyleaf cross-breed band Automatic Loveletter at their headlining show at the Crocodile Rock Café in Allentown, Pennsylvania. What this did mean, however, was that the 13 die hard fans that would not give up hope and stayed at the venue would be treated to one of the most intimate rock shows of their lives?

After playing an hour long set, lead singer Juliet Simms sat down with me to dish on the band and her hopes for their future.

**AN: So what was it like playing to such a ridiculously tiny crowd tonight?**

JS: I loved it. The more intimate the funner I think. I know funner is not a word but I just made it one. I like to make up words (*laughs*).



Juliet Simms and Alex Nagorski pose together after the interview at the Crocodile Rock Cafe.

**AN: (*Chuckling*), it's okay we all do that. How did you come up with the name for your band, Automatic Loveletter?**

JS: I came up with the name because for a while most of my lyrics were like love letters. Automatic is because it's through a song, coming through a stereo and coming through speakers, so I just thought it was cool. It's kind of like a non visual love letter.

**AN: The band has gone through quite a few changes in terms of various members dropping in and out over the years. Having always been the front woman, tell me about how and when the band was started, as well as the inspiration behind it's creation?**

JS: I started writing when I was really young, when I was 12. I wrote a bunch of songs and started playing them on a guitar and started playing a lot of shows locally until the age of 15 when I went out to California and got signed by an indie label around 16.

They suggested that I put a band together, so I started doing that when I was 17 after already recording an EP. Then I would just go through members because certain members weren't right or certain members were just filling in because they were friends, and finally these are the right guys. I love it but it's taken like five years, (*laughs*).

**AN: This year you made the transition from exclusively playing small venue shows to huge concerts at landmark events such as the Bamboozle festival and Warped Tour. Were you ready for this change and did it affect the intimate feel of your music?**

JS: No I don't think it did. After playing as many of these little shows as we have. I don't think we would have been ready at all unless we had done this. I think this is a really good base and a really good ground to grow and maintain your integrity, intimacy and a great show. I just felt really, really prepared.

"Automatic is because it's through a song, coming through a stereo and coming through speakers...It's kind of like a non visual love letter."

**AN: In October of last year you released your first EP, "Recover." Are you working on a full length album? If so, are the same songs from the EP going to make an appearance on it?**

JS: Yes, we finished up the album over the summer and plan on releasing it at the end of the year. I believe a few of the songs from the EP will be on it, like "Parker" and a few others the fans know of plus some new ones.

**AN: Your lyrics are very vivid, strong, honest, and expository. Not to mention your songs have an extremely wide range of emotions. "Shut Your Mouth" for example is a rather angry rock song, while "Make Up Smearred Eyes" is one of the most genuinely heartfelt acoustic songs of sorrow I think I've ever heard. Overall, however, your songs all seem to tell stories. Do you write them from life experience or from fiction?**

JS: Life experience. I have to be inspired. I need a muse or something to inspire me to write lyrics. I can't just sit there and poop out good lyrics. The good thing is I can get inspired really easily, so I'm constantly writing everyday.

**AN: So then what inspired you to write the first song you ever wrote?**

JS: The first song? A boy, definitely a boy.

**AN: When you were twelve?**

JS: Yep, when I was twelve. I think the chorus was even like "I need you now, I want you, you're the light of my life." Something corny like that. They were really

cheesy, dumb lyrics, but you know, I was twelve what can I say (*laughs*).

**AN: You have an absolutely stunning and very different voice compared to mainstream music. Did you have to take lessons or train it to sound that way or is that truly your natural instrument?**

JS: I just have been singing my entire life. Ever since I was three- years-old singing every Disney movie. I mean I could sing every Disney song you could think of. Plus I was in plays when I was growing up, I've only recently, in the last year, started doing warm ups everyday for about an hour and building just a stronger range and a stronger bridge. But other than that no, I don't take lessons.

**AN: Many fan reviews I've stumbled across online have cited your music as a "life saver." How does that make you feel, and what is your main goal as a musician?**

JS: That's my main goal - touching people and helping them. Helping kids, or whoever, grown ups, feel better. I like them to think of my music as a Band-Aid, or some sort of ointment cream that massages your scar and makes it go away (*laughs*). No, but seriously all I want is people to feel safe by my music.

**AN: You've already collaborated with artists such as All Time Low and Cartel. If you could collaborate with anyone in the industry, dead or alive, who would it be?**

JS: John Lennon, hands down. Come on, that's an easy one (*laughs*).

**AN: Finally, when you look at all the amazing changes that have happened for your band in the past year and with everything you have to look forward to, where do you see Automatic Loveletter being a year from now?**

JS: I am a dreamer. I hope to see us playing for 30,000 people. I want to get on great tours. I don't want to stop; and I want Automatic Loveletter to become a household name.

**AN: Well thank you so much. Good luck with your trailer and the next coming months!**

JS: Thank you, I appreciate it. Hope to see you at our next show!





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# 'Berg ladies end week on a good note

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Muhlenberg Lady Mules continued their great season on Wednesday, as they were able to shut out their rival Bryn Mawr Owls 3-0 in order to win their fourth conference game this season. 'Berg goalkeeper Kate Morrissey stopped the only shot she faced all game in order to preserve the clean sheet for her team.

Muhlenberg scored three goals in the first twenty-four minutes, getting goals from Jennifer Lynch, Christina O'Grady, and Nicolette Miller to help preserve this win. 'Berg dominated the entire game, out shooting the Owls 15-2.

On Sunday, the Mules took on the Franklin and Marshall Dips in a game that was postponed from Saturday due to weather.

The first half of this game was dominated by great offense and weak defense, leading to six total goals scored by the two teams on Sunday night. However, defense ruled the second half of the game and both overtime sessions as the Mules and Diplomats tied 3-3 in a crucial Centennial Conference matchup.

Junior midfielder Jayne Condon opened the scoring in the game in the seventeenth minute off of a feed from freshman Meghan O'Grady. Junior Kimberly Hacker doubled 'Berg's lead less than six minutes later when Meghan's sister, Christina gave Hacker a feed of her own. Meghan O'Grady gave the Mules their third and final goal of the game in the twenty-ninth minute of the game off of a feed from fellow freshman Nicolette Miller.

Muhlenberg, however, was unable to hold off the F & M Diplomats, as they continued to score three consecutive goals in less than eighteen minutes to come back and tie the game.

As previously stated, the second half was greatly lacking in offense, and full of stifling defense from both sides. Meghan O'Grady had a few more opportunities, including a great shot from the far right side of the box that F & M goalkeeper Erin Roy was able to make an outstanding save on. O'Grady also had a corner kick that was extremely close to being headed in to the goal, but ultimately stopped by the Diplomats. Christina O'Grady also had a fairly good shot from the left side of the box late in the game, but it was also stopped by Roy.

In both overtime sessions, there were no great chances for either team, although Muhlenberg did have two opportunities to have a breakaway, but they were stopped by the Franklin and Marshall defense. Muhlenberg ultimately outshot the Diplomats 20-8, while starting goalkeeper Kate Morrissey was pulled before the second half after giving up three goals on four shots in the forty-five minutes that she played.

Tempers were flaring late in the game, as there was a possible call for holding on the Diplomats that the referee decided was legal, and the Muhlenberg bench erupted in anger. Coach Benintend was screaming across the field at the referee for a good twenty seconds, telling him that the call was "awful."

The referee also stopped the game with a few minutes remaining in the second half, saying that if he hears one more obscene comment from the fans, players, or coaches, he will throw them out of the game.

"I made a mistake at the end there because of the s\*\*\* being yelled at me and the other officials by the fans, players, and coaches, and that has got to

go," the referee stated.

The Franklin and Marshall coaches were clearly outraged with the officiating in the game, as they were constantly yelling at the referees and muttering profanity behind their backs, while the Muhlenberg bench was just as unhappy, although not being as vocal about it.

Altogether, though, the Lady Mules should not be happy with the result of this game, as they gave up a lead that should almost be an automatic win in soccer. Even so, the Lady Mules are now 4-2-2 in the Centennial Conference, and they face Ursinus and Gettysburg in their final two conference games of the season, both on the road.



Sophomore defenseman Emily Olson recorded her first career point with an assist in a win against the Owls.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## 'Berg field hockey whips the Dips

By Ben Levine  
WEEKLY LIFE EDITOR

The Muhlenberg field hockey team (8-8, 4-4) continues to ride their impressive win against sixth-ranked Johns Hopkins (13-2, 6-1), extending their winning streak to four games after Friday's convincing win against the Franklin & Marshall Diplomats (5-11, 2-7). Last Wednesday, the Mules defeated Scranton (8-8) 3-1 in a non-conference game. Junior midfielder Tara Cohn scored five minutes after the half to advance her goal-scoring streak to five straight games – a streak that was broken Friday.

The Lady Mules took the field Friday after a rousing opening ceremony for the seniors. The Mules' offense got off to an aggressive start without allowing the ball to leave the offensive zone for the first five minutes. Any Diplomat attacks taken into the Mules' defensive zone were quickly dealt with by the defense and midfielders and the ball was swiftly passed back to the attack.

Franklin & Marshall came out of the half with ferocity. However, the Mule defense stepped up and bore the brunt of every attack that the Diplomats threw at them.

Throughout the game, senior goalie Michelle Consiglio made notable saves but none more remarkable than in the second half. Consiglio made

an athletic save with her right blocker early in the second half to set the defensive tempo. When presented with the Diplomat onslaught, senior defender Kristin Garbutt (last week's Centennial Conference defensive player of the week) shined again, showing immense defensive prowess and leadership.

Twenty minutes into the half, junior forward Nicki Notarianni won the ball at midfield then tip-toed down the sideline with impressive agility. Notarianni hit a scorching cross, finding sophomore Chessie Martinez in the circle. Martinez, who showed considerable hustle throughout the game, hit a skillful bouncing shot into the net to put the Mules ahead by one.

Twelve minutes later, with three minutes left in the game, sophomore midfielder Jess Kasza successfully put the game away with her fourth goal of the season. In the waning minutes of the game, Consiglio inspiringly dove headfirst into a melee to hit the ball out of the circle, forcefully earning her seventh career shutout.

The Mules have an uphill battle to earn the playoffs. However, with two games left, it is possible for the Lady Mules to earn a playoff spot with tough victories at Ursinus (12-2, 7-0) and Gettysburg (10-5, 5-2).



# Only a true hockey fan...

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

is not.

A person who cheers only when his team scores is not a true hockey fan. A Penguins fan who only respects a goal that Crosby scores is not a hockey fan—he's a Penguins fan.

A Capitals fan who says that any hit against Ovechkin is a dirty hit is not a hockey fan—he's a Capitals fan.

And so, in spite of all this, I decided to make a list of how you know whether or not you are a true hockey fan, or just a bandwagon fan who wants a championship in his city.

Don't get me wrong, I would love to see the Flyers win the Stanley Cup. But I also respect any team that does, and will cheer them on during that victory lap with the Holy Grail.

Only a true hockey fan will pay ridiculous amounts of money, equal to a week's pay, simply to take his son or daughter to their first game.

Only a true hockey fan will cheer at a beautiful goal scored, even if it is scored against his home team.

Only a true hockey fan will accept the fact that his team lost to a better team.

Only a true hockey fan will look at the replay of his own team, and say, "Oh yeah, he did deserve that penalty."

Only a true hockey fan will accept the fact that Alexander Ovechkin and Sidney Crosby can tear the crap out of their team regularly.

Only a true hockey fan will sit down after a loss, and not make excuses, such as "the refs threw that game," or "Crosby was diving."

Only a true hockey fan realizes that no matter how many regular-season points you have, if you are beaten in a seven-game playoff series, you are not the best team in the league.

Only a true hockey fan will give props to a team that beat them in the

If there is one thing that I hate, it is when someone claims that he is a true hockey fan, but really

playoffs, because only the best team wins the Stanley Cup. I'm looking at you, Pittsburgh fans.

Only a true hockey fan realizes that any hockey game is worth watching—whether NHL, International, Junior, Minor league, or bantam league.

Only a true hockey fan will have memorabilia of any good hockey player, and not just that of his home team.

Only a true hockey fan will continue to support the league in a bad time, such as a lockout.

Only a true hockey fan will continue to support his team, even in a losing season.

Only a true hockey fan will be a hockey fan forever. If you one day decide hockey isn't so great, you never were, are, or will be a true hockey fan.

Only a true hockey fan will laugh at a player tripping over himself, no matter what play it breaks up.

Only a true hockey fan will love the Stanley Cup, no matter how often it has eluded his team.

Only a true hockey fan will show and feel respect for the Stanley Cup-winning team.

Only a true hockey fan realizes that the Stanley Cup winner is truly the best team. The Super Bowl champion can get lucky for three games. The Stanley Cup champion can not get lucky for 16 games. To win four playoff series, you have to be good.

Only a true hockey fan will accept the opinion of every other hockey fan, as long as that opinion is intelligent and realistic.

Only a true hockey fan wakes up every morning thinking about hockey, and goes to sleep every night dreaming about it.

Only a true hockey fan sees hockey as a religion, not just a sport.

Only a true hockey fan will look at someone who says "it's just a game," turn around, and walk away smiling and thinking, "If only they knew..."

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# Senior Mules put on a show for their parents

By Daniel Wayne  
WEEKLY SPORTS EDITOR

In Sunday's game, a result from a weather related postponement on Saturday, the Men's Soccer Mules (11-4-1, 4-2-1) performed at levels far above expectations. A 5-1 victory over the Fords from Haverford College (3-8-3, 0-5-2) was the product of this stellar play.

In the annual senior game, in front of an audience of hundreds, the honored players displayed their appreciation for the crowd. This recognition, while aimed towards all of the Mules' fans, was focused on the participant's parents who had spent countless hours nurturing their sons' love for the game.

Senior forward Brendan Carroll was especially thankful. "To have all our parents there was amazing," he explained, "it definitely made me play harder knowing that they were watching."

This hard play he referred to was exhibited in his performance. Coming less than five minutes into the game, Carroll scored the Mules' first goal. "I really wanted to score this game and since it was the perfect situation (with parents present), having the goal come five minutes in was really special."

Another of 'Berg's scores came just six minutes later. This time, it was senior midfielder Billy Dalton, who took a cross from fellow senior midfielder Steve Tenenzapf, and placed a magnificent one-timer into the back

of the net.

With the score 2-0, at the twelve minute mark, it could be expected that the Mules would take their foot of the accelerator, but this was not the case. Three minutes later, junior forward Eric Miller made the score 3-0, with the help of, who else, co-captain Dalton.

Sophomore striker Tommy Reilly also contributed to the team's success with the fourth goal of the first half. "While in the big picture the goal wasn't vital (to the victory)," said Reilly, "it feels great to contribute in what will be a lasting memory in the minds of our seniors and their parents."

Freshman forward Cody Antonini scored the fifth, and ultimately last, goal for the Mules in the game.

With a five goal lead enter halftime, 'Berg looked great. The defense and its leader, senior goalie Joseph Gogel, had performed at the best of their abilities. Despite making only one save in the half he played, Gogel exhibited his unyielding composure in the leadership and command that he has over the team.

The Mules next games are on Wed. against Swarthmore on Varsity Field, and on Sat. at Ursinus. The team hopes to come away with two victories that will propel them into the Centennial Conference playoffs with strong momentum and a better seed. Carroll summed up these next matches in a great way, "These are two huge games."

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## S P O R T S

Inside: Men's Soccer  
thanks parents  
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## In the rain, Mules rally past F&M 17-6

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The weather was not very kind on family weekend as the Mules had to simplify their playbook because of the downpour of rain. Senior running back John DeLuca set a career high with 42 carries that amassed for 177 yards. For the second straight week, DeLuca had more rushing yards than the opponent had in total yards. The Mules put the clamps down on the Diplomats offense, holding them to only 129 total yards (88 rushing and 41 passing). The combination of DeLuca and great defense helped the Mules prevail, 17-6, over Franklin & Marshall (3-4, 2-3).

With the score knotted up at zero in the second quarter, the Dips got a break as the Mules muffed a punt giving F&M great field position on the Muhlenberg 31 yardline. Eight plays later, running back Ryan Murray found the endzone on a 4 yard run to give the Diplomats a 6-0 lead. Franklin & Marshall's sideline was ecstatic as they thought they were going to be up at half. Not so fast. The Mules next drive stalled, but a 53 yard punt by senior Dave Mazzola pinned the Dips at their own 6 yard line. The Muhlenberg defense forced another 3 and out giving senior quarterback Eric Santagato and his offense a short field and plenty of time before the end of the half. Four plays later, Santagato scrambled into the end-zone on an 18 yard run. The Mules led 7-6 at the half.

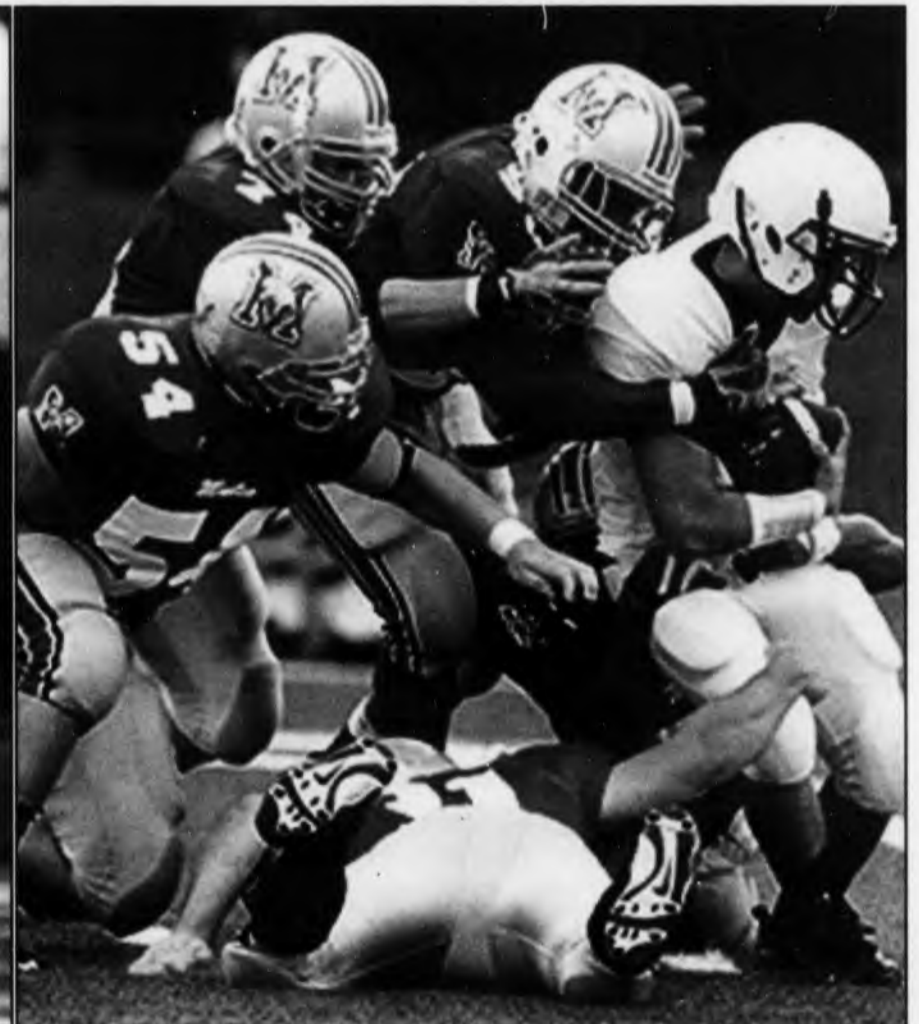
Another short field set up the Mules second scoring drive. The drive started at the Diplomats 48 yard line and was capped off by a 6 yard touchdown run by DeLuca. Late in the third quarter it seemed that F&M got a

break as they downed a punt at the Mules 7 and after a Muhlenberg penalty, the ball was placed at the 'Berg 3 yard line. What happened after the punt will remain memorable. Muhlenberg started the drive with 1:38 left in the 3rd quarter. 21 plays, 72 yards, and 11 minutes 27 seconds later, the Mules were up 17-6. Muhlenberg rushed the ball 17 times including 13 rushes by DeLuca. The drive was capped off by an incredible kick from sophomore Michael Katz. In the down-pour, Katz drilled a 42 yard field goal which put the nail-in-the-coffin for the Diplomats. On the season Katz is 5-6 on field goal attempts and a perfect 32-32 on extra point attempts.

Even with the rain coming down heavily, many Mules had great performances. DeLuca reached the 1,000 yard rushing total for the second consecutive season and Mazzola was honored for the second time this season as Centennial Conference Special Team's Player of the Week. Senior linebacker Matt Rathbun led the defense with 8 tackles on the day.

Muhlenberg (7-0, 4-0) has now won 18 consecutive regular season games, including 13 straight against Centennial Conference opponents. The Mules jumped to #2 in the country in the American Football Coaches Association Poll, the highest ranking any Muhlenberg team has ever had. They also jumped to #4 in the D3football.com poll.

This weekend the Mules will travel to Carlisle, PA to take on Dickinson (4-3, 3-2). Last year the Mules trailed 17-0 against the Red Devils but battled back to win 29-24. With a win Muhlenberg will clinch at least a share of the Centennial Conference title.



Left: Senior John DeLuca carried the ball a career high 32 times; Right: The Mules defense held the Dips to only 6 first downs and 41 passing yards



# Obama rides Muhlenberg students to victory

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Tues, Nov. 4, nearly 650 Muhlenberg students patiently waited on line at the William Allen High School polling center to cast their vote in the 2008 Presidential Election, the majority of which voting for the first time in their life. Lines stretched around two blocks, people on line waited as long as three-and-a-half hours and extra poll workers had to be brought in to accommodate the overcrowding but, in the end, the nearly 650 Muhlenberg students performed their civic duty to vote.

The polls opened in Pennsylvania at 7:00 A.M. but students were lined up to vote well before then. Co-Presidents of the College Democrats, Adrian Shanker '09 and Jonathan Rosenau '09, had buses shuttling students to and from the polls starting at 7:00 A.M. until the last student voted after 9:30 P.M. The campaigns for Senator Obama, and Congressional hopeful, Sam Bennett, bought sandwiches, donuts, coffee and water for the patiently waiting voters.

Poll workers and election observers alike said that this year's turnout was unprecedented in the polling ward's history. Even the Mayor of Allentown, Ed Pawlowski, attested to the record number of voters. "This is a historic turnout this year. I have not seen so much voter enthusiasm since Kennedy in the 60's." Asked what accounted for the historic turnout, Mayor Pawlowski said, "People are

hungry for change." He also reiterated how historic this election was with a historical anecdote, "232 years and 4 months ago today, the founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence. Today, their vision of equality can be realized with the election of the first African-American president." Mayor Pawlowski could be seen giving away Dunkin' Donuts coffee and doughnuts to voters and poll workers alike as he waited in line to vote.

Student rock group *Neighbor Poem* spent nearly 3 hours entertaining the voters who were standing online. *Poem* is a trio consisting of Hugh Trimble '10, Sam Swan '10 and Ty Hooker-Haring '09.

An exit poll of Muhlenberg students conducted at William Allen High School by the Weekly determined that Democratic candidate Barack Obama won the hearts of a vast majority of Mules and received 81.2 percent of the vote while Republican candidate John McCain received only 17.3 percent of the vote. Of the 346 students sampled, 281 voted for Obama, 60 voted for McCain and 5 either voted for a "third party candidate" or declined to vote for the president. The rest of the Lehigh County's voters shared Muhlenberg students' "hunger for change" as Obama won Lehigh County 60 percent to 39 percent.

Muhlenberg voters were not only voting for the next President of the United States but were also voting for Pennsylvania's 15th District House Representative; Democrat Sam Bennett opposed incumbent representative Charlie Dent.



A record number of people turned out at the polls on Tues. to vote in the 2008 election.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

Muhlenberg voted 69.7 percent (241 votes) for Sam Bennett while Charlie Dent received 22 percent (76 votes). Charlie Dent eventually retained his seat, winning 58 percent the vote.

The exit poll also took into account voters' gender and age. Muhlenberg men voted for Obama, 78.8 percent, over McCain, 19.2 percent. Oddly enough, despite the fact that McCain's running mate Sarah Palin is a woman, fewer Muhlenberg women (16.1 percent) voted for McCain than men did (19.2 percent).

As the poll was dissected by age it turned out that freshmen consisted of the highest percent of Muhlenberg voters with 36.5 percent of the voters. Freshmen voted for Obama 100 times while voting

for McCain only 25 times. Sophomores voted for Obama 65 times while voting for McCain only 11 times. Juniors, who consisted of the fewest number of voters, voted for Obama 54 times while voting for McCain only 11 times. Seniors voted for Obama 62 times while voting for McCain 13 times.

When the day was finished, it turned out that Muhlenberg voters exercised their right as American citizen's to vote for the leaders of their country. America will be have a new administration and the next 4 years will be a pivotal time in America's history.

For all the Muhlenberg students who voted at William Allen High School, they can say for the rest of their lives that they had their voice heard in 2008.

## Senator Barack Obama Wins!

As of 11:15 pm on Tues, Nov. 4, the American people voted Senator Barack Obama to be the new president of the United States with 274 electoral votes. Senator McCain formally conceded after Obama reached 338 electoral votes even though McCain won the state of Arizona bringing him up to 156 electoral votes. Obama, the president elect spoke in Chicago at midnight thanking all of his supporters as well as Sen. McCain and Gov. Palin for a great race. He thanked the American people for electing him, saying, "I will never forget who this victory belongs to - it belongs to you."

INFORMATION COURTESY OF MSNBC



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

# Life after the election

## Not there yet...

One last election editorial. Finally, it's November 4, and in a few hours we'll know who is the next President of the United States. We could have written this after it's all said and done, but right now is more exciting.

The three of us have had our fill of the election, especially today. One stood in line to vote, one voted absentee, and the other is still piecing together our front page article after spending all day at the polls conducting exit polls.

He turned in really good numbers for the College though, and we are proud that so many students felt it was so important to vote. It seems like the entire country is excited, and will wait as long as it takes to cast their vote. We are not naïve, we know that not everyone votes. But it does seem like everyone cares a little more this year, realizing that a whole lot is at stake. We have no idea what might happen, but hopefully nothing too dramatic. The drama of the last year or so has been enough, thank you very much.

It is encouraging that so many young people are voting. And better yet, it seems like they actually know why it is important and why they support a candidate. Yes, some people are probably influenced by other students and the general consensus on campus, but students seem to have an opinion, which is most important.

As of right now, Obama is up in electoral votes 207 to 135, but it's not over yet. We're still waiting for the major swing states like Florida, North Carolina, Missouri and Indiana to be called. It's hard to tell if we are nervous, excited, or are just plain sick of politics and can't wait for it to be over. No more campaign commercials! Ah, there's the silver lining.

So while we sit and wait in our Underground office, this is our last hoorah. We will be here (possibly until the wee hours of the morning) and wait until everything has been called so that we can proclaim an accurate result. Hopefully there will not be any miscounts, machine problems, rain, hanging chads, ties, etc. to slow us down as the polls close. Although, we did just hear via an internet broadcast something about wet ballots and the machines rejecting them. Uh oh. This could be a very long night.

By Rachel Majkszak  
ASST. OP/ED EDITOR

So the election's over. What do we talk about now? I know that I'm not alone in saying that I'm glad this election season is complete. I expected to wake up Tuesday filled with anticipation waiting to find out who the next Commander in Chief will be and if control of Congress will go completely to the Democrats. Instead, I'm excited that it was Election Day because I got out of class early and Starbucks offered me free coffee.

We've all had just about enough of hearing "hockey mom," "William Ayers," "maverick" and "change" on a daily basis. Towards the end, the election season moved from serious political discussion to humorous folly. You know we ran out of serious issues to talk about when Joe the Plumber became a household name and Sarah Palin appeared on Saturday Night Live.

So what happens now? Do people just stop caring? This election saw record turnouts at the polls and enormous amounts of participation and excitement. But now that some are happy that their candidate has been elected, and others are mourning the loss, is it all over? I for one am ready to retire some of my political excitement. The McCain signs will eventually come off my wall (much to my roommate's delight), the background picture on my cell phone of John McCain at a speech in March will soon be changed and my Republican-themed apparel can go into storage. (The Ronald Reagan calendar can stay up through the end of the year though).

This election season gave a sense of hope to everyone. While Obama was the candidate with the clear message of "hope" and "change", even McCain supporters found something to believe in. The majority of the country disapproves of our current administration and is eager for a change. Whether you were looking for that change in McCain or Obama, you had something to hope for.

People across the country became passionate about issues and candidates. The media became infatuated with the tight race across the states. Citizens became informed, took action, told their friends, and cast their ballots. Now that the decision has been made, I wonder if people will still be so interested in being involved. We could all use a break from politics, but I wonder if this election season has made people realize democracy is something worth getting excited about more than once every four years.

## A view on poverty and homelessness

By Sara Beitman  
OP/ED EDITOR

Last week, I volunteered my time for Senator Joe Biden's visit to the College. My job was to manage the line of townspeople and students waiting to get into the event. The afternoon went smoothly except for my encounter with two pro-life protesters in line.

These ladies were holding up a huge, graphic poster of an aborted fetus, they were yelling vicious remarks about Senator Obama and Senator Biden, and they told me that I was going to burn in hell for believing in pro-choice.

Our volunteer coordinator told us

not to interact with these women, so it took all the self control I had in me not to argue with these protesters. However, when the ladies said "homeless people should not be allowed to vote, because they choose to be homeless," I could not keep my mouth closed. I argued back that, of course people do not choose to be homeless. People end up homeless because of the lack of healthcare, welfare aid, and affordable housing in this country.

I am tired of people who say: "why should I give my hard working money away to lazy, non working, poor people?" As the former co-chair of Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, I can tell you that thirty percent of Americans live

under the poverty line, but only four percent of citizens receive government aid.

For instance, in class I recently saw the documentary "To Render a Life," which depicts the Glass Family of Virginia and their struggle with poverty. The film shows Obi Glass, who has worked for the same furniture company for thirty years, yet he can barely support his family.

Mr. Glass receives no government aid, no healthcare, no vacation days, and no sick days from his job; and he has to participate in a gun shooting competition every week in order to bring home groceries for his family. His wife Alice had to stop working because of her heart condition, and the family can not

*Thirty percent of Americans live under the poverty line, but only four percent of citizens receive government aid.*

afford to pay for her surgery. Many people do not realize that most homeless and/or impoverished people like the Glass family, are not "lazy bums," they are hard working individuals who encountered unfortunate circumstances, like being unable to get a decent paying job because they could not afford to go to college, or going bankrupt because they did not have health insurance and had to pay hospital bills, so they were evicted. To learn more about these issues, go to the Faces of Homelessness Panel, or to the Hunger Banquet, or donate a can of food during Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week on November 16-22.



# Intelligent politics



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

Regardless of what happened this past Tuesday, since I am writing this before the election results are known, it has been a grueling march to this vote for our country's next President.

It has been an election that has inspired a high degree of passion for politics among most people in this country, which is a positive thing. However, there still remain some disturbing trends within the politi-

cal discourse in America, both among everyday citizens and the national media.

Far too often you hear people ridiculously exaggerate claims about the candidate they do not support. Barack Obama and John McCain aren't fascists. Anybody who makes a statement like this needs a reality check and a history lesson.

Along the same lines anybody who still believes Obama is a closet Muslim and terrorist, needs to first learn that being Muslim doesn't equate to being a murderer and second that Obama is Christian, and there is nothing to debate about that.

On the other side, John McCain isn't a cold-hearted, radical conservative who plans on invading every nation in the Middle East. The type of rhetoric that completely demonizes the other candidate is unintelligent and prevents logical debate in this country.

Sadly most people will be bouncing back and forth between FOX News and CNN for their election coverage. These two channels precipitate the view that there are two

Americas, an extremely liberal one and an extremely conservative one. Whatever happened to an unbiased

source of news? As a relatively liberal individual, I know I can put on Keith Olbermann and hear somebody who agrees with most of my viewpoints, while if I put on Bill O'Reilly, I am going to disagree with just about everything he says. I know things have always been looking up for Barack Obama on CNN, while FOX news has simultaneously tried to put holes into his campaign.

The problem is that most of America is pretty moderate. We aren't radically liberal or conservative. Maybe we lean a little bit one way certain issues, but for the most part we are in the middle of the political spectrum.

Bill Clinton was a successful President because he was a moderate Democrat. George W. Bush failed miserably as a President because he was extremely conserva-

tive and out of touch with most Americans. Maybe I am being unfair and history will vindicate Bush, like

he seems to believe it will. Yet, if I was a betting man, I would say in 50 years Bush is generally ranked as one of the five worst Presidents in our history, while Clinton is ranked somewhere in the upper half.

Americans should feel strongly about their candidate and their issues, but at least be realistic when discussing the other candidate. Republicans, are you going to leave the country if Barack Obama won on Tuesday? Do you really think he is going to destroy this country, which still remains the world's sole superpower?

Democrats, are you going to flee into Canada if John McCain wins? Do you think he is going to attempt to harm a country that he fought for? The bottom line is, yes I think Barack Obama is the right choice to lead this country right now but if John McCain wins, I am not giving up on America.

*The type of rhetoric that completely demonizes the other candidate is unintelligent and prevents logical debate in this country.*

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# Why a students' bill of rights?

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

The Preamble starts, "We, the adult student body of Muhlenberg College, create this document in order to ensure and protect the rights of all students, in lieu of loco parentis by the College. This private academic corporation and our fellow students shall not abridge these rights for any student by virtue of liberty, expression, and inquiry."

*Our goal: to reflect a broad consensus of the community, to have it added to the Social Code, and to have it approved by the Board of Trustees.*

the most potent, most democratic sections from colleges like Oberlin and Rhode Island College and hope you will help us improve it with your input! Our goal: to reflect a broad consensus of the community, to have it added to the Social Code, and to have it approved by the Board of Trustees.

A Students Bill of Rights is a common document found at many colleges and universities throughout the country, appended to Social Codes, to draw bounds for the campus community respecting certain rights of privacy, expression, safety, and academic freedom.

Without it, the Social Code is merely a guideline that could be disregarded arbitrarily and unfairly by students, faculty, and staff. It also empowers students to speak out against injustices that may occur in disempowering situations like judicials, police presence, searches, and most classes.

To be competitive with other colleges, especially the Ivies, we must begin to model our College to be one that truly respects us as adult individuals, capable of giving consent to the most fundamental processes and policies that affect us.

And of course there's the adage, if young adults can vote in Old Man's elections, fight in Old Man's wars, and burden Old Man's student debt, then the College must grant us certain, inalienable rights as their young adult customers and not assume total parental supervision ("loco parentis").

*We must begin to model our College to be one that truly respects us as adult individuals, capable of giving consent to the most fundamental processes and policies that affect us.*

Most of all, this fantastic experimental exercise of direct student democracy will bear a Bill of Rights to protect every future student from most unreasonable interpretations of College policy. How's that for a class gift?

Our plan is textbook community organizing. First, we will gather at least 758 student signatures by November 9 (which is how many students voted in the last Student Council election). Then we will facilitate an online amendment process from November 9 to 12.

On Thurs., Nov. 13 at 6 p.m., after the Alma Mater plays from Haas tower, we will rally for our rights on the front lawn and attend the Student Council meeting at 7 p.m. to see it pass. From there, we will design creative and engaging methods of persuading the Board of Trustees to buy into the goods.

To participate, all you have to do is sign the petition, which you'll see at tables in Seegers, but mostly in our organizers' hands as we knock on your doors. To whet your whistle, here are the names of the twelve different

Articles:

"Freedom of expression and association," "Freedom of communication," "Freedom from discrimination," "Student participation in campus governance," "Consent of rules and regulations," "Freedom from disciplinary action without due process," "Violation of law and College discipline," "Privacy," "Freedom from improper disclosure," "Freedom in the classroom," "Protest," and "Amendments."

All of them were taken and molded from other colleges to fit what we felt were appropriate to demand at the College. The better news is it's not done! Democracy means you can participate in making this something you support! So take the time to stop by, read it, sign it, help us gather signatures, and win rights for students.

If you are interested in this work, in addition to peace, justice, environmental, and anti-oppression activism, SdS meets every Monday at 9 p.m. in the Red Door. I will leave you with the inspirational words of Ghandi: "Be the change you want to see in the world." So get to it!

## Write for OP/ED!

Share your opinions!

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# Senator Joe Biden speaks at the College

By Victoria Davis  
WEEKLY EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Last year, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama paid the College a visit. This year, it was Senator Joe Biden's turn.

On Thurs., Oct. 29, vice presidential candidate Joe Biden spoke to a crowd of students and community members in the College's Memorial Hall. Sponsored by the College Democrats, the "Get out the Vote" rally provided students and the public with one final push to get out there and vote.

The event began with a brief speech by the mayor of Allentown, Ed Pawlowski. Also in attendance was congressional candidate Sam Bennett, showing her Philadelphia pride by sporting a Phillies jersey. After numerous introductions, Biden took the stage to rousing cheers and applause.

A self-professed "Scranton guy," Biden visited the Lehigh Valley in a last-minute attempt to win the swing state of Pennsylvania. With the election just five days away at the time, Biden showed no sign of slowing down the Democrats' campaign.

Adrian Shanker, co-president of the Muhlenberg College Democrats, estimated between 2,800 and 3,000 people came out to hear

Biden's speech. The College worked long hours and that the event helped any remaining to ensure the event would take place, as they undecided voters make up their minds." were given only a couple of days to work out the logistics.

"The College Democrats and the Obama Campaign worked around the clock to make the event happen," said Shanker. "Many offices on campus work extra hours as well - they include Public Relations, Campus Safety, Plant Operations, Seegers Union and Campus Events, and the Athletics Department."

In what was sure to be an enthusiastic final push for his and Obama's campaign, Biden said that he was in the Lehigh Valley to "turn the lights out" on the election. He encouraged every American to vote, claiming that "this is the most important election any of you in this gymnasium have ever voted in...the stakes could not be higher."

According to Shanker, one fourth of the College's student body registered to vote. He said, "We hope the Muhlenberg student body was inspired by Senator Biden's message of change

*"...this is the most important election that any of you... have ever voted in...the stakes could not be higher."*



Biden is all smiles as he speaks in the College's Memorial Hall.

SEE BIDEN | PAGE 8

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

## Student organizations host voter education forum

By Jenn Levelle  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

On Tues, Oct. 21, the Environmental Action Team (EnAcT), College Democrats, College Republicans, and the Muhlenberg International Relations Council (MIRC) hosted a Voter Education Forum with support from the Student Activities Office. At the event, a panel of three professors introduced major issues being discussed in connection to this year's presidential election and directed questions to representatives of the Obama and McCain campaigns. EnAcT President and co-coordinator of the event, Steve Epting '09 said that "the goal of the event was to provide the Muhlenberg community with information on the two main Presidential candidates' stances regarding the biggest issues in this year's election, and to give students the opportunity to ask, or at least think about, questions regarding the election."

Ms. Toni Verstandig spoke about Obama's plans and policies, and was

introduced by College Democrats Vice President Ally Margolis '11. Ms. Verstandig is currently a Senior Policy Advisor at the Center for Middle East Peace and Economic Cooperation and served as a senior Middle East Policy Advisor under the Clinton administration.

Mr. Julian Stoltz represented Senator McCain's views and was introduced by College Republican President Lauren Spirko '11. Mr. Stoltz is a student at DeSales University, serves as a School Board Director on the East Penn School Board, and is a coordinator for Lehigh Youth for McCain.

Dr. Gambino, Chair of the Political Science department and Director of the Environmental Studies program introduced environmental and energy concerns facing the next Commander-in-Chief. He asked the representatives pointed questions about Obama's and McCain's methods for achieving American energy independence and the government's role in environmental protection. Mr. Stoltz replied that McCain would be tak-

ing an "all of the above" approach to energy independence, which includes enthusiastic support of offshore drilling and nuclear power, along with wind and solar energy. He also said that Americans should not need to make sacrifices in their daily lives for the sake of environmental concerns, and that offshore drilling will, in the end, create more jobs for Americans.

Ms. Verstandig said that Senator Obama is hesitant about immediate drilling offshore, as it will take years several years to actually extract any oil. She expressed Obama's hesitation about nuclear energy unless safety concerns are addressed and the public is informed, preferring to invest in clean coal, wind, and solar options.

In pursuit of a cleaner environment, Ms. Verstandig emphasized the need for Americans to work together, become educated on alternatives, and that the advancement of green technologies will create jobs and stimulate the economy.

When asked by an audience member about whether or not clean coal

is worth pursuing, both representatives replied that their respective candidates support research and commercialization of clean coal technologies, and Mr. Stoltz emphasized the vital role it plays in the American economy, especially in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Herrick, Professor of Political Science and Director of the International Studies Program addressed international and foreign policy issues especially pertinent in this year's election. The principal topic of discussion was the candidates' stances on U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ms. Verstandig stressed Senator Obama's holistic and comprehensive approach to Middle Eastern conflicts, rather than President Bush's sporadic compartmentalizing of the issues, and emphasized the need to acknowledge the interconnectedness of nations in the Middle East in order to seriously address the problems there.

Concerning foreign policy, Mr.

SEE VOTER FORUM | PAGE 6



# Renowned writer Linh Dinh, visits the College

By Jana Elfenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Linh Dinh, a bilingual poet, essayist, and fiction writer, visited the College on Oct. 30. He is renowned for using Borgesian metafiction and genre bending to illustrate a sense of ludicrousness and bewilderment unusual to being a world citizen in this period of time.

Many of his works concentrate on issues about the body, of which he remarks, "I write about the body because you can't escape it." Though it is a remark that one may usually not think of, however, it is very true. His works include, *Fake House*, *Drunkard Boxing*, *Night, Again: Contemporary Fiction From Vietnam*, *The Drunken Boat*, "Painted Words," "Toys and Incense," "Found Grounds," and many more.

His works have been translated to Japanese, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Polish, French, German, Finnish, Arabic, and Icelandic. His work has also been included in anthologies

including Great American Prose Poems from Poe to Present, Best American Poetry 2000, 2004, 2007, Asian American Poetry: The New-Generation, and more.

Dinh was originally born in Saigon, Vietnam but moved to the United States with his family at the age of twelve. He went to the University of the Arts to study painting; however, he did not receive his degree because he realized being an artist, especially a painter, was too expensive.

From then on he focused on writing. He chose to move back to Saigon in 1999 where he continued his writing. It was here that he started to translate his English poems to Vietnamese. He left Saigon in 2001 and returned to the United States where he was offered to be a guest of the International Parliament of Writers in Italy for two years.

He mentioned during the reading that having the opportunity to be a guest and live in Italy for those two years of his life was an indescribable experience.

It was during his time in Italy that he was able to create some of the material that he would later incorporate in *Blood and Soap*.

Dinh is currently living in Philadelphia with his wife. He is focusing on his writing and teaching a course titled "State of the Union" where he enjoys educating himself and challenging his students.

At the poetry reading he read various sections from a few different pieces. He also read two articles that he has written. His articles were very frank and witty; he had the crowd at the reading laughing multiple times throughout the reading.

He was very amiable after the reading as well. He thanked the audience for having him and he signed numerous copies of his work for those in attendance.

His story is very inspirational. He admits to sometimes having difficulty with the English language still, but that does not hinder his production of incredible, articulate writing.

## VOTER FORUM | FROM PAGE 5

Stoltz chose to emphasize Senator McCain's concerns for Israel and the danger of Iran's possible nuclear programs. Regarding the Iraq war, Mr. Stoltz highlighted McCain's dedication to "withdrawing with honor after creating a stable democracy."

The recent financial crisis has thrust the economy into the forefront of discussion surrounding this year's election, and our next President will have to make some significant financial decisions. Dr. Laposata, a Visiting Professor of Economics, gave some background about the history of American

financial institutions, and asked the representatives the tough questions about the government's role in managing the effects of the economic crisis and the federal deficit.

Concerning Senator McCain's economic policies, Mr. Stoltz emphasized a smaller government role in economics, tax cuts for the upper instead of middle class, and a plan to keep families in their homes. Ms. Verstandig highlighted Senator Obama's plan to provide immediate relief to needy families, create jobs for the middle class, institute a moratorium on foreclosures, and the "need for appropriate, not cumbersome regulations" of business.

In concluding, Ms. Verstandig

stressed the importance of voting as "America's greatest privilege, which is especially important in such tough times." Steve Epting noted that "overall, the event was a huge success. The impressive turnout of more than 200 students demonstrated that Muhlenberg voters are engaged in this election and interested in what candidates have to say about the future of




our country. The professors gave great background on the most important issues in the election, and asked demanding questions of the

representatives."

Kate Howell '09 attended the event, and said "I was complaining to my Dad that I felt uninformed about the election and he encouraged me to go to a political event on campus. My response was 'Dad, come on, Muhlenberg isn't political enough for that.' Well, I was happy to find I was very mistaken. As soon as I got the Facebook invite I RSVP'd and I found it incredibly helpful. I filled out my absentee ballot yesterday, which I wouldn't have done otherwise."

*"...the professors gave great background on the most important issues in the election..."*

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Showers	Partly Cloudy
High: 64 Low: 48	High: 59 Low: 43	High: 49 Low: 35

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

# Write for News!

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# Muhlenberg got out the vote

By Adam Bernstein  
WEEKLY LIFE EDITOR

It has been called the most important election in all of American history, and it has ended in an historic result. This election has had an impact on the College as the College Democrats boosted their Get Out the Vote (GOTV) movement, which has been called an amazing success.

With programs sponsored by the College Democrats, from their push to get students of the college registered to vote in Pennsylvania, to their "Don't Stop at the Top" campaign, to the biggest one, having Senator Joe Biden speak at the College last Thursday, the College Democrats stopped at nothing to get every single registered student to the polling place.

Voter registration was key to a successful campaign for the Democrats. This semester alone, 270 Democrats, 66 Republicans, and 135 Independents registered for the first time, which is equal to 79% of the Freshman Class. This was a record registration that contributed to more than half of the overall vot-

ing population at Muhlenberg. In all, Muhlenberg has 782 students who registered to vote, 492 Democrats, 94 Republicans, and 196 Independents.

As Pennsylvania is seen as a "swing" state, especially the Lehigh Valley, the College Democrats sponsored numerous meetings with Democratic candidates who were up for election. The College welcomed City Councilman Michael Donovan, County Executive Don Cunningham, Mayor Ed Pawlowski, State Representative Jennifer Mann, U.S. Congresswoman Sam Bennett, and Senator of Delaware/Democratic Vice Presidential Candidate Joe Biden. The attendance of these roundtables, meetings, and rallies has been an amazing success. The rally for Joe Biden brought in close to 3000 people from both the school and the surrounding area.

Co-President of the College Democrats, Adrian Shanker said, "We feel so honored to have hosted President Clinton and Senator Obama last semester and Senator Biden this one. We hope these

events are memorable ones for the student body, and that it complements our Get Out the Vote effort by providing exciting campus events."

The College Democrats GOTV movement has been an extreme success. Volunteers have knocked on doors, handed out posters and flyers, and rallied for the Democratic Party. College Democrats canvassed not only for Barack Obama and Joe Biden, but also for the rest of the ticket, especially Sam Bennett, U.S. Congress candidate. The College Democrats used every resource to their advantage and even had a little help from celebrities Josh Lucas and Al Shearer, who both came to Muhlenberg to get students excited and registered to vote. Adrian Shanker stated that, "It is so clear that Muhlenberg is an Obama campus. The Obama campaign has gone above and beyond in student outreach, and those of us who work for the campaign on campus have seen the wonderful effects of this effort."

Most of the Muhlenberg students that are voting are first timers, and the excitement among them showed just that. On Election Day alone, the College Democrats set up areas at two locations to get as many people as possible on the shuttle and to the polling station. In addition, supporters carried signs

*"Voter registration was key to a successful campaign for the Democrats."*

for their candidate and urged everyone to vote. The goal was to get every registered voter, no matter what party affiliation out to the polls because in a swing state like Pennsylvania, every vote truly does matter.

In a final thank you, Adrian Shanker said, "Muhlenberg has stood out among the County Democratic Party and has proven to be a vital force within the local party."

This is a direct credit to the Board of Directors and the volunteers who put in countless hours to make our work successful."

## OFF CAMPUS

### *McCain sues to force Virginia to count military ballots*

Republican John McCain's presidential campaign sued the Virginia election board Monday, stating that absentee ballots weren't mailed on time to members of the military who are serving overseas.

The complaint asks the U.S. District Court in Richmond to order the state to count absentee ballots postmarked by Tuesday and received by Nov. 14. It contends that thousands of troops' ballots will not be counted. This is an issue for McCain because many of those ballots would go to McCain.

The lawsuit is the second in a week to challenge preparations for the presidential election in Virginia. All of the commotion is because Barack Obama hopes to become the first Democrat since 1964 to win the state's thirteen electoral votes. Polls over the past week show him about even with or slightly ahead of McCain.

The NAACP also sued the state last week. They contended it did not allot enough voting machines for the enormous number of voters in majority black precincts expected to be drawn to the polls by the hope of

electing Obama as the first black president of the United States.

U.S. District Judge Richard L. Williams on Monday declined to order longer voting hours and other changes requested by the NAACP.

McCain's lawsuit alleges that ballots for overseas military voters were mailed too late to ensure they are returned by the deadline. A 1986 federal law requires ballots to be mailed to military voters in foreign countries at least forty five days before the election. This year that day would have been Sept. 20. The lawsuit claims that the state didn't even have the ballots printed and sent to local officials by that date. This means that they may not have been mailed overseas until October.

Ashley L. Taylor Jr. who is an attorney for McCain, said that unless the deadline is extended, tens of thousands of overseas military absentee ballots could be negated.

Board Chairwoman Jean Cunningham said late Monday afternoon the board had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment.

*Information Courtesy of The Associated*

### *Johnny Manana's goes out of business*

Johnny Manana's restaurant in downtown Allentown has gone out of business. It is only less than a year after its grand opening, when it was acclaimed by politicians as a symbol of the city's renaissance.

Tim Bonnie, the restaurant's owner, confirmed ton Tuesday that the restaurant is out of business. The cause, he said, was due to negative publicity generated by a Morning Call article published in July.

The article placed the restaurant on the selling block by revealing how Bonnie faced costly lawsuits for neglecting to make rental and legal payments. "The article closed the restaurant," Bonnie said. He refused to provide any specifics.

One of the restaurant's biggest supporters is Allentown Mayor Ed Pawlowski. He said Johnny Manana's was a victim of the slump in the national economy. "When people are worried about paying their mortgage or their fuel bills, discretionary spending is the first thing they cut. The downturn in the economy has adversely affected Johnny Manana's and other well-known restaurants across the region. Eating and drinking

establishments are being hit especially hard," Pawlowski said via written statement.

He added, "Johnny Manana's is in a prime location. The city will work with the owner to get that reoccupied as soon as possible."

The restaurant saw nearly four years of construction delays when it was first considered in 2004. There were also lawsuits and thousands of taxpayer dollars before it finally opened on Hamilton Street, across from the PPL tower. Bonnie received a \$50,000 restaurant grant through a program established by Mayor Pawlowski. The money was allocated for both exterior and interior improvements. In addition, the program requires the recipient to reimburse the city a portion of the money if the restaurant closes within five years.

In his State of the City address this year, the Mayor pointed to Johnny Manana's and the nearby Allentown BrewWorks as he said, "After so many years of inactivity, the renaissance of Allentown is in our midst."

*Information Courtesy of The Morning Call*



## BIDEN | FROM PAGE 5

The crowd was not allowed to bring signs into the event, but once inside held up "PA 4 OBAMA" signs and applauded whenever Biden raised his voice or pounded the podium with his fists. He spoke emphatically about the usual issues such as the economy and the war in Iraq, energizing the crowd.

While Biden acknowledged party differences, he did say that Obama's administration would work to unite America after a close election: "It's about uniting America again...We cannot

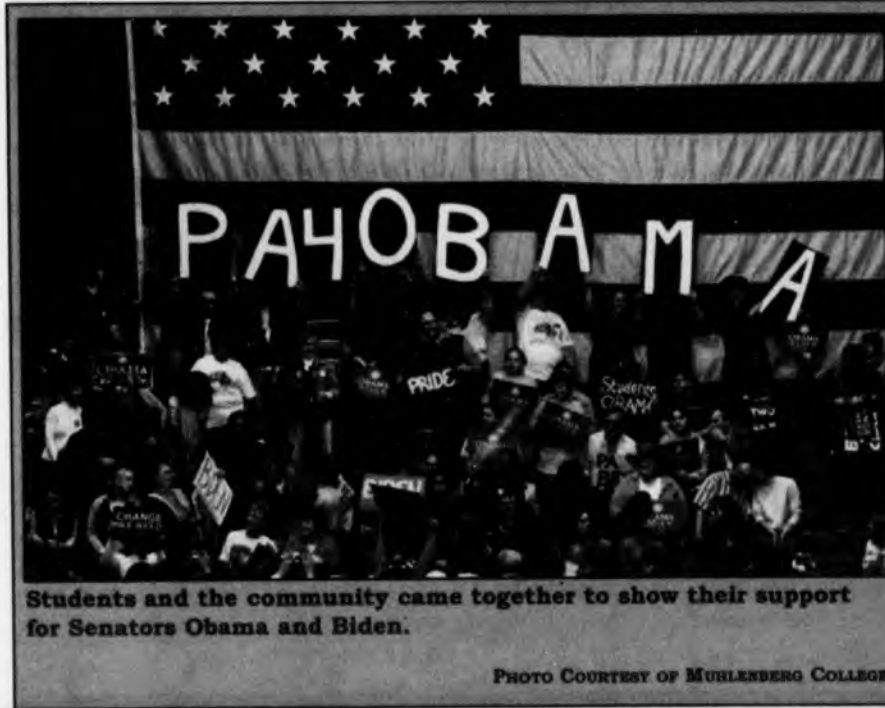
lead the world as a divided nation...We absolutely are committed to uniting this country."

Biden also laid out his and Obama's top priorities if they won the election. "We're going to spend every waking hour during our administration, God willing, doing two things. One, restoring the middle class in America. And secondly, and equally important...we have to reclaim America's respect in the world."

In a relatively short speech, lasting a little over 25 minutes, Biden made his claim that Obama has "steel in his spine" and that "the choice is so absolutely clear."

Shanker said, "We hope the Muhlenberg student body was inspired by Senator Biden's message of change and that the event helped any remaining undecided voters make up their minds."

Overall, the "Get out the Vote" rally provided Muhlenberg students as well as the public with a final jolt of excitement for the 2008 Presidential election. Biden seemed to feel right at home in Memorial Hall, saying, "By the way I love your mascot, I call it a donkey, you call it a mule. I like the look of it you know what I mean?"

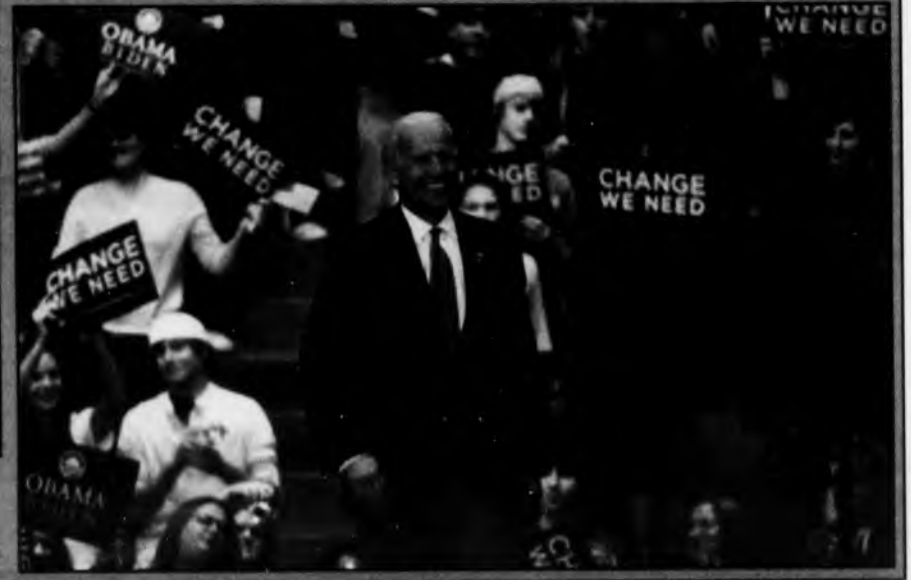


Students and the community came together to show their support for Senators Obama and Biden.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

Supporters were given the opportunity to show their support with signs bearing the Obama/Biden campaign slogan.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE



## Campus Safety Notes

Oct. 27 - Medical - Campus Police transported a sick student from the second floor of the Trumbower Building to the Health Center. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 27 - Alarm - A fire alarm went off in Prosser Hall. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 27 - Alarm - Burnt popcorn set off a fire alarm on the first floor of South Hall. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 28 - Alarm - Burnt popcorn set off a fire alarm in Plant Operations building. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 28 - Alarm - A fire alarm went off at 2442 Tilghman St. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 28 - Accident - A tree limb fell on a car on North 23 St. A work order was issued to remove the branches.

Oct. 28 - Found Property - A student found an umbrella in the Front Drive. Student turned the umbrella over to Campus Safety.

Oct. 29 - Lost Property - A student may have left an ATM bank card in the ATM in Seegers Union. Student has yet to recover the card.

Oct. 29 - Lost Property - A student lost a room key. Student was referred to the housing office for a new key.

Oct. 29 - Alarm - a fire alarm on N. Leh St. was set off by cooking. No further incident was reported.

Oct. 29 - Found Property - A student found an ID card and turned it over to Campus Police. Item placed in student ID card box.

Oct. 30 - Traffic - A freshman has had a vehicle on N. 26 St. for some time. Previously the student had been approached but student said he was a visitor. Student was referred to Dean's office.

Oct. 30 - Theft - A student reported that money was missing from their wallet. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 30 - Accident - A student reported hitting a car on N. 23 St. Pictures were taken of the damage.

Oct. 30 - Medical - A visitor injured an ankle while playing basketball in the Life Sports Center. Allentown EMS took victim to the hospital. No further information is known.

Oct. 30 - Hit and Run - A student reported that a car struck a parked car in the Benfer driveway, and proceeded to drive away. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 30 - Liquor Law - While investigating the hit-and-run accident, an officer reported that a keg was found in the parked car. Student was referred to judicial.

Oct. 30 - Found Property - A coat was found underneath the seats in the Life Sports Center basketball court. Item placed in lost/found locker.

Oct. 31 - Vandalism - The door to the dumpster corral was damaged by a vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 31 - Lost Property - A student reported losing a diamond earring. Student was not certain if the earring was lost on or off cam-

pus.

Oct. 31 - Vandalism - A street light was broken on N. 26 St. The light bulb and protective lens were shattered. It is unknown if the light was damaged by an errant soccer ball or as a result of vandalism.

Oct. 31 - Harassment - Offensive things were written on a white board on the fourth floor of Walz Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Oct. 31 - Medical - A sick student was transported from the second floor of Martin Luther Hall to the hospital by Muhlenberg EMS.

Oct. 31 - Terroristic Threats - Student received threatening text messages from a non-student. The victim knows the suspect. Investigation is ongoing.

Nov. 1 - Liquor Law - Muhlenberg EMS responded to a report of a sick student on the second floor of Benfer Hall. MCEMS and Allentown EMS transported the student to the hospital. Student was arrested for underage consumption of

alcohol by Allentown Police.

Nov. 1 - Found Property - A broken iPhone was found on the third floor of Walz Hall. Item was placed in lost/found.

Nov. 1 - DUI - A non-student was arrested by Allentown Police for driving under the influence. Arrest occurred on Liberty St.

Nov. 2 - Noise Complaint - A complaint was filed to Allentown Police about a large party on N. Leh St. Allentown Police broke up the party.

Nov. 2 - Alarm - A fire alarm lever was pulled in South Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 2 - Theft - A student reported that a cell phone and ID card were stolen in Prosser Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 2 - Medical - A student was injured in the Trexler Pavilion for Theatre and Dance. MCEMS paged the Health Center and student was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future.

~ John F. Kennedy

## Department of Theatre and Dance hosts award-winning composer

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The College Department of Theatre and Dance hosted award-winning composer Charles Strouse on Wed. Oct. 29. Mr. Strouse sat down with Charles Richter, director of theatre here at the College, and answered questions about his legendary past.

Strouse graduated from the Eastman School of Music at the age of eighteen, at which point, he lived as a piano player in New York City. He recalled his modest start in a joking manner, saying that he grew "accustomed to nobody listening." But his aspiration to be a serious composer never dwindled, as he began coaching singers, developed an interest in pop music, and eventually was asked to do a show.

*Bye Bye Birdie* was Strouse's first musical, and remains one of his most famous. The show was completed through his work along with Michael Stewart and Lee Adams, whom Strouse continued to collaborate with on many of his ensuing productions. It was loosely based on

the idea of Elvis Presley entering the army, and resulted in a family and teen oriented musical with plenty of rock n' roll. The head of Columbia Records at the time, Goddard Lieberson, took an interest in their work, and after a few more auditions and performances of the songs, the show took off. "The world turned Technicolor," Strouse remembered fondly.

In his visit to the College, Strouse not only reminisced about his inspiring success but gave advice for students hoping to break out in the acting business. "I both envy you and feel sorry for you in a way," Strouse said to an audience of many members of the College's Theatre Department. He proclaimed that the industry is, indeed, very tough and "full of whims," but it is also filled with exceptionally fun times.

*Bye Bye Birdie*, which became the first rock n' roll show on Broadway, won a Tony Award for Best Musical in 1961. Since then, Strouse's work has been nominated for numerous other awards and won two additional Tony's, including the award for Best Original Score for the classic

*Annie* in 1977. Strouse himself has won Emmy Awards for his music in the television versions of both of these shows, as well as the Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein Awards. In addition, he is a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Theatre Hall of Fame.

For a man of such success, Strouse was quite down to earth in his visit to the College. He did not mention his book, entitled *Put on a Happy Face* after the well-known song from his first musical, until nearly the end of his talk, modestly explaining his shock that the recently published book was already in its third printing.

He excited his Baker Theatre audience by playing and singing some of his compositions, including the popular "Once Upon a Time," the *All in the Family* theme song "Those Were the Days," and his popular song "Born Too Late," which hit number one on Billboard charts in 1958. Strouse recalled "Born Too Late" as his most popular composition, saying that it was the biggest hit he ever wrote. "Twenty girls chased me down the

street," Strouse said with a laugh, remembering the popularity with which the song's success brought him. "It was wonderful!"

Strouse and his wife Barbara, who is a director and choreographer herself, hope to return to the College to work with students and faculty in the upcoming theatre production of *An American Tragedy*. Strouse voiced his excitement about working with the College community before opening for questions.

One of the many questions that concluded his talk came from a young, red-haired girl in the front row. "What was it like writing the songs for *Annie*, and what was your favorite song?" Strouse smiled, unwilling to admit to a single favorite. A definite crowd pleaser, he bent over the piano once more: "It's a hard-knock life..."

In signing copies of his book following his talk, Strouse graciously accepted numerous expressions of thanks, but said that he feels somewhat strange doing so.

It was weird to be accepting so many thank-yous, he said, for simply doing what he loves.

## Election Day 2008



On Nov. 4, students of the College took the shuttle down to William Allen High School in Allentown and found themselves waiting in line upwards of three hours to vote.

PHOTOS BY STEVE MOTSCHWILLER



# Love and Politics

By Rachel Majkszak and  
Rebecca Unger  
*WEEKLY LIFE WRITERS*

In this election season, we have read a lot about political affiliations and relationships. Is love deep enough to cross political boundaries? Will you be eternally unhappy if you are committed to someone not committed to your candidate of choice?

In honor of the recent election, we decided to share our conflicting opinions on mixed political relationships. Rachel is married to her political views and is insistent she could not date out of her party.

Becca, on the other hand, thinks love comes first and if it happens to conflict with her political views, the difference could be overlooked.

**Rachel:**

When asked what my number one qualification in a partner would be, I jokingly proclaim that they must be Republican. In my closet hangs a shirt that proclaims "I only sleep with Republicans."

As humorous as this may sound, I see nothing more attractive than a guy with conservative social values and a belief in a free market economy.

I'm a political science major and politics has been my passion, particularly Republican politics (my Op-Ed failed to mention my collection of elephants).

While it's hard enough to talk politics with friends who do not share my Republican zest, being in a relationship with a Democrat would be even more difficult.

I'm not saying that every relationship needs to consist of two members from the same side of the political spectrum. But for someone who has a Ronald Reagan calendar hanging in her room, political affiliation is a big consideration.

This weekend, I read a story about a relationship that fell apart because of the election. The couple just couldn't overcome their bickering about the

economy, taxes and health insurance. With both partners so strongly committed to their candidates, love could not defeat politics.

People tell me I'm too picky since I discriminate based on political affiliation. It's probably true, because I still haven't found my Republican prince charming.

Maybe it's possible that I could date someone who didn't share my views if he was able to understand my point of view and accept my crazy conservative ideals. But to share dinner with someone lecturing me on redistributing wealth? It's just not going to happen.

My political views are a big part of my identity and I think I would find it difficult to date across the political spectrum.

I'm still skeptical that love conquers all and transcends political beliefs—but I guess you never know until you try.

**Becca:**

When searching for a potential partner, there are

a lot of qualifications that I consider such as his looks, a sense of humor, and compassion.

I won't deny that his values are an important factor as well: I don't think I could have a long-term relationship with someone whose values are radically different from my own.

That being said, I don't necessarily think that his political affiliation would make or break the deal. Politics are important, of course, but it's more than that.

If he doesn't believe in global warming, yeah, that might be a problem, but not for political reasons. If he refuses to recycle, if he tells me that my own belief in it is wrong, then that would be a conflict of our core values — which is beyond the political spectrum, it is a conflict of lifestyles.

After all, consider the age old saying, "opposites attract." Though people use it liberally to cover a whole range of differences, having differing political



## AMC Weekend Listings



**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa**  
Fri. 8:10, 9:30, 10:30  
Sat. 8:10, 9:30, 10:30  
Sun. 8:10, 9:30, 10:30

**Changeling**  
Fri. 4:10, 7:05, 10:05  
Sat. 4:10, 7:05, 10:05  
Sun. 4:10, 7:05, 10:05

**High School Musical 3: Senior Year**  
Fri. 4:20, 7:30, 10:00  
Sat. 4:20, 7:30, 10:00  
Sun. 4:20, 7:30, 10:00

**Saw V**  
Fri. 4:50, 7:10, 9:50  
Sat. 4:50, 7:10, 9:50  
Sun. 4:50, 7:10, 9:50

**Soul Man**  
Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20

**Zack and Miri Make A Porno**  
Fri. 4:45, 7:20, 9:40  
Sat. 4:45, 7:20, 9:40  
Sun. 4:45, 7:20, 9:40

**Role Models**  
Fri. 5:00, 7:50, 10:10  
Sat. 5:00, 7:50, 10:10  
Sun. 5:00, 7:50, 10:10

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

#### WHAT'S THE BEST THING TO GET FROM THE GQ?



"Diarrhea."  
- Adam Rogers, '10



"Hugs."  
- A. T. Shire, '10



"Odwalla and the Naked drinks."  
- Daniel Wayne, '11



"I like the deli section, especially with Souha."  
- Emily Morse, '10



"The mandarin chicken salad."  
- Jasmine Jefferson, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCKY



# Moving Stories Ahead

By Kelsey Griffith and Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITERS

Select Muhlenberg dance majors are busy weaving a visual tapestry of motion to touch audiences with original choreography and unique perspectives. Each Fall, the Muhlenberg Dance Association and the Dance Department produce *Moving Stories*. This concert gives junior and senior dancers the opportunity showcase their own creative material on Baker Stage.

Professor Charles O. Anderson, the artistic director, has guided student choreographers throughout the process. Performances are Thurs, Nov. 13 through Sat, Nov. 15 at 8:00 p.m. with a Saturday matinee at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for students are \$5 can be purchased at the Trexler Pavilion Box Office.

Taking a moment to interview the choreographers has revealed a better taste of their process, vision and what's in store for audiences. Students profiled this week include: Janel Sipala '09, Lauren Naab '09, Olivia Wingerath '09, and Professor Sarah Carlson. Next week, the rest of the choreographers in the concert will be covered.

Professor Sarah Carlson is a guest choreographer in this fall's production. Her piece, entitled "response/ability" explores the nature of human reaction. Carlson describes the work as "high powered and unrelenting, the dancers tumble in and out of urgent situations that

test their limits. Lassique Benthaus' gritty score fuels the frenzy in this environment where moments of hesitation can have dire consequences." Dancers include Laura Beahr '12, Carin Fenstermaker '10, Emily Daly '10, Casey Gill '10, Christine Marty '12, Kiera Bianchini '10, Erik Feiberger '10, Zach Chiero '09, Jocelyn Thau '10 and Kelly Havran '10.

Sipala '09, who has choreographed for *Moving Stories* last year, explores the obstacles one faces when "facing personal [and] distorted images with the hopes of seeing and uncovering their true-selves."

Sipala describes her process of creating a dance piece as "exploring different movements and shapes and then finding the connection and quality that propels the movement. Music is a major influence in my work and takes on the role of inspiring the dancers and me."

Sipala's dance, entitled "Palindrome," includes Meghan Meehan '09, Lauren Naab '09, Rebecca Haverson '10, Laura Mayerson '10, Olivia Alvarez '10, Chelsea Corley '11, Meghan Schiffer '11, and Jennifer Newman '11.

Sipala is thrilled to be choreographing once again, "The opportunity to choreograph at Muhlenberg means that I have the chance to

share something about myself with an audience. I can utilize my own methods of dance movement to create a piece of art. In presenting my work to a varied audience, I enjoy hearing their feedback and thoughts. The success of inspiring or moving my viewers is very rewarding."

In "Introspect," Lauren Naab, '09 creatively integrates the worlds of dance and science, as she uses movement to represent consciousness and the tracking of thoughts.

Naab is thrilled to be presenting this piece, "I am very honored to be able to choreograph at Muhlenberg, especially on the Baker stage. This specific work means a lot to me as it is connected to my Neuroscience major."

This piece might be a great introduction to appreciating dance concerts for students who don't traditionally attend dance concerts. Dancers Rebecca Haverson '10, Kiera Bianchini '10, Olivia Wingerath '09, Kelsey Griffith '11, Meghan Schiffer '11, and Brittani Maglio '11 work to show the flighty progression of thought as it enters and exits the brain.

Through a personal investigation of attachment and separation, Olivia Wingerath, '09 utilizes "powerful gestures" to convey a powerful topic. Trio Samantha Jonson '09,

Maggie Griffin '11, and Katina Simonetta '09 successfully translate Wingerath's concepts in their bodies as they tell the story of her piece, "Separating from Wood to Dust."

Wingerath's inspiration comes directly from her own life and her piece is set to the song "Kid A" by Radiohead. It is her first time choreographing for the Baker Stage and she notes "I am extremely lucky to be given the opportunity to choreograph on a stage in a large theater at such a young age.

We are given just the right amount of freedom, but helpful guidance from the faculty. The process for the choreographers in *Moving Stories* is great because we are able to learn from fellow choreographers and become inspired by each other's dedication and passion."

The Muhlenberg Dance Association and Department of Dance invite you to experience the stories of these Muhlenberg community members who have taken the courage and dedication to stage their dreams, visions, and stories.

The American College Dance Festival Association has consistently recognized dances premiered in this concert for high excellence in choreography and performance. Take a look at the creations of our talented young choreographers from one of the nations leading dance programs. To get the best seats in the house make sure that you purchase tickets soon.

*"...Facing personal and distorted images with the hopes of seeing and uncovering their true-selves"*

## Trans-Siberian comes to DVD

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

The classic Hitchcock plot of strangers on a train gets an engrossing revival in *Trans-Siberian*. Writer/director Brad Anderson gives us an artful and shifty take on human strengths and weakness; his film delivers the pleasure of a conventional tale well told, with clever twists and complex characters.

Woody Harrelson and Emily Mortimer bring humanity to their roles as Roy and Jessie, married American missionary volunteers returning from China. The six-day ride from Beijing to Moscow puts the pair in a Hitchcock-like nightmare: They don't know whom to trust, or even if their own actions are right or wrong.

The couple's trip to China wasn't

entirely charitable. Roy thought an adventure would be good for his cooling marriage. Before settling down with her nice, dull husband, Jessie was a self-destructive alcoholic. Roy, a train buff, figured that what excited him would thrill Jessie, so he booked their return by rail, a journey she endures with a wan smile.

Her interest picks up when a young couple, Carlos and Abby (Eduardo Noriega and Kate Mara), come aboard. Carlos eyes Jessie with more-than-friendly interest, while Abby remains mysteriously reserved. The backpackers know a lot about faking passports and slipping through customs checkpoints, and it appears they're involved in some sort of shady business. Roy and Jessie become separated (is Carlos to blame?), Jessie leaves the

train to wait at the next station and the young couple insist on accompanying her. Soon our conflicted heroine is in touch with the dark side she's spent years trying to suppress.

Anderson is a masterful manager of plot, introducing shocks and clues just when they will be most effective. In keeping with the Hitchcockian tone of the film, the anxiety creeps higher with each new suspicion and revelation. He nonchalantly introduces everyday items: a digital camera, a Russian nesting doll and, a bottle of vodka that will play crucial roles in development of the story.

You can never be certain when a turn of events is coincidence or part of some overarching scheme. When the travelers are joined by Russian police detective Grinko, is he truly on a personal trip or constructing

some type of sting operation? The longer we observe these characters, the less they resemble what they purport to be.

Harrelson (*No Country for Old Men*) has never been so relaxed and natural, and his innocent Midwestern tone is one of the most credible representations of the film. Mortimer (*Lars and the Real Girl*), makes Jessie a nesting doll of courage, guilt, pride, fear and vulnerability. Ben Kingsley, who's seemingly is making a movie a minute, brings enigmatic intensity to the role of Grinko, a man who has seen Russian regimes come and go, leaving only corruption and opportunism behind.

During the film you may feel certain about your train of thought, but *Trans-Siberian* will derail it time and again. Find it at your local DVD rental store now.



## More than just the final victory: *Hoosiers & Rudy*

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

"I play, Coach stays. He goes, I go."

Any sports-movie buff recognizes the words spoken by fictional high school basketball star Jimmy Chitwood in the movie *Hoosiers*. And last Sunday, students of the college got to speak with the man behind the script – filmmaker Angelo Pizzo.

Pizzo scripted and produced the 1950's Indiana-basketball homage *Hoosiers* (1986) and scripted *Rudy* (1993), the tale of a Notre Dame football walk-on. Pizzo spoke with students in Miller Forum, discussing the challenges of filmmaking and giving tidbits of behind-the-scenes trivia from both films.

"You have to be a little bit of *Rudy* to make it in the film system," Pizzo said. Daniel "Rudy" Ruettinger approached Pizzo with intentions of making a movie depicting his years as a benchwarmer at football powerhouse Notre Dame. Ruettinger was finally allowed to suit up and play in the final game of the season.

"I was moved by Rudy's story," Pizzo said. He said to gain success in any field of life, you must have the same drive of Rudy, who, as the movie so adequately states is "5 foot nothin', 100 and nothin'," with "barely a speck of athletic ability."

Pizzo acknowledges that he has been "nichefied" as a sports-genre writer – but he attributes the success of his movies to the traits in characters that viewers (both athletes and non-athletes) can relate to.

*Hoosiers'* basketball coach Norman Day must rise above his past flaws as a big-name college coach. Rudy strives to suit up for his ultimate dream – a chance to play on the football field of his dream-college. At

the end of the movie, "the final victory is not the most important thing," Pizzo said.

Another element of Pizzo's success in filmmaking is the authenticity of his films. In scripting *Hoosiers* – which was inspired by the 1954 Milan High School state champion team – Pizzo strove to accurately depict the basketball culture of rural Indiana.

Originally, he sought a screen writer from Indiana, to "be authentic down to the last detail." When he couldn't find one, he set out to write the script himself.

"If the tapestry was not there, it would feel generic," Pizzo said.

Authenticity was the goal right down to casting extras to play the role as basketball players and fans in the movie. Pizzo's crew choose 90 players of nearly 700 who tried out, and games were filmed during the half-times of high school basketball games to get a true Indiana crowd.

"If you get one or two things wrong, people are thrown out of the movie," Pizzo said.

Wrapping up his talk, Pizzo emphasized that persistence is the key to making it, not just in film, but in achieving life goals like the athletes in his films.

When filming *Rudy*, Pizzo's crew was determined to receive permission to film at Notre Dame – a school that had denied film crew access for 52 years. In the case of *Hoosiers*, Pizzo struggled for more than three years to finally get a studio to produce his film.

"I didn't know anybody who knew anybody... who even knew anybody," he said.

Pizzo was turned down by "probably close to 500 studios," he said. "But we never questioned the value or worth of our material."

POLITICS | FROM PAGE 10 values may not be a huge problem. If, like me, his political affiliation is a bigger deal inside the polls than out, but we agree on more personal aspects of our lives, I believe it could – and often does – work out.

In fact, one of my co-workers last summer is a staunch Republican, and yet his girlfriend is a registered Democrat and voted for Obama in this week's election. How could you explain that? Clearly there are other factors completing their compatibility than merely their political views.

That's not to say that I have any interest in dating the male version of Rachel. I'm not sure that I could ever put aside his political views if they were an intricate part of him. I wouldn't mind if he didn't believe in my political viewpoints, but I wouldn't appreciate being told I was clearly wrong for possessing these beliefs.

The bottom line is relationships come down to compromise in every aspect, whether it's as inconsequential as where to eat for dinner or accepting each other's differing political views. If he's unwilling to compromise, then he isn't worth it to me.

So in conclusion, maybe love doesn't conquer all. It's what makes up that love that really matters. It all comes down to your fundamental values – and if politics is at the core of those beliefs, then it's what's important to you.

### CORRECTION

Last week we credited pictures "courtesy of Brenden Votipka;" however, Ken Ek should have been credited.

Write for  
Life!!  
**PLEASE?**

## More election day coverage



As the day went on, the lines only got longer as not only Muhlenberg students, but the community waited to vote...in support of the Democratic party, a local Obama supporter holds up an Obama-puppet outside of a polling place.

PHOTOS BY STEVE MOTSCHWILLER

## Men Mules make it to the postseason; hope to exorcise the Red Devils

By Daniel Wayne  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Men's Soccer Mules have passed the test of the regular season. With a convincing 3-0 win over Ursinus on Saturday, 'Berg moved

into 5th place in the Centennial Conference.

The first match for the Mules in the playoffs will be the 4th seed Dickinson. The game is being held in Carlisle on Wednesday, Oct. 5. This first round game will be a rematch from their meeting on Oct. 1st.

The regular season match up was a hard fought battle. After the Red Devils scored early in the game, the two teams began trading aggressive offensive attacks back and forth. None of these scoring pushes resulted in any goals and the game ended 1-0, with Dickinson as the victors.

The Mules are familiar with the playoff atmosphere. They have appeared in the postseason for the last nine seasons, and with this appearance, the total will be ten.

'Berg is also comfortable with the notion of being the underdog. In 2005, the Mules entered the playoffs as the 3rd seed. After beating Swarthmore 3-0 in the semifinals, the Mules took care of the Gettysburg Bullets to win the C.C. Championship.

With a win on Wednesday against the Red Devils, Berg' will face the Swarthmore Garnets. This meeting will be another rematch for the two teams. The Garnets handed 'Berg their final loss of the regular season on Oct. 29.



Freshman forward Cody Antonini scored 5 goals this season. He is the first freshman to do so for the Mules since 2001.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Sports Schedule

### Women's Soccer (Postseason)

Wed., Nov. 5 vs. Haverford, 7:00

(with win) Sat., Nov. 8 at Johns  
Hopkins, 12:00

### Men's Soccer (Postseason)

Wed., Nov. 5 at Dickinson, 7:00

(with win) Sat., Nov. 8 at  
Swarthmore, 1:30

### Football

Sat., Nov. 8 vs. Ursinus, 1:00

Do you think you  
could do better?

Want to prove it?

Write for Sports!  
Contact Daniel at

[Daniel.Wayne@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:Daniel.Wayne@muhlenberg.edu)



# Lady Mules clinch playoff berth with win and tie

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Muhlenberg Lady Mules are headed to the playoffs! They played two great games this week-end behind solid performances by their freshman goalkeeper Michelle Toher, and were able to clinch the fourth spot in the Centennial Conference. They will host Haverford College at home on Wednesday night.

In a game that was delayed because of inclement weather, Muhlenberg travelled to Ursinus College (6-9-1, 5-4) in order to play their

Conference rivals. This match was no contest, as Muhlenberg dominated from start to finish and won this game 5-0.

Michelle Toher only needed to make one save to preserve the shutout, and freshman Nicolette Miller score two goals, including the game winner, en route to their fifth Conference win of the season. Miller now has 24 points overall, the most for a freshman since 2001, and leads the Centennial Conference with 20 points in league games.

This five goal output was the most for the Lady Mules in a conference game since

1999, and was the first time since 2001 that Ursinus gave up more than four goals in a game.

Then, on Saturday night, Muhlenberg qualified for the playoffs by playing to a scoreless tie at Gettysburg College (5-6-6, 4-4-2). Toher made four saves earning her second shutout of the season, and extending her shutout streak to 379 minutes.

The Lady Mules set a school record for ties in a season with their fourth, while finishing their regular season 10-4-4 overall, and 5-2-3 in the Centennial Conference.



Left: Freshman forward Nicolette Miller has 24 points on the season; Middle: Junior defenseman Samantha Hoffman was named C.C. Defensive Player of the Week; Right: Junior Forward Christina O'Grady has recorded 4 goals and 3 assists in the regular season.

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# Penguins: Stanley Cup bound or doomed from the start?

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Everyone expects a Stanley Cup hangover nowadays. Especially when you lose. Out of the last ten years, only one time has a Stanley Cup finalist returned to the finals the following year: the New Jersey Devils in 2001.

Now that the Pittsburgh Penguins lost their top two defensemen in Sergei Gonchar and Ryan Whitney, then they're almost definitely going to fail, right?

One would think so. However, it isn't their defense that is struggling. Their goals against average per game is 2.33, good for seventh highest in the league behind teams including the New York Rangers and Montreal Canadiens.

Their penalty kill is ranked fifth in the league with an 87 percent efficiency rate. That's not bad, considering their top defensive pairing is sitting at home on the couch, throwing back a few and watching their team play.

The most telling stat? The Penguins have 14 points in their first twelve games this season. They are on pace for 96 points. Never in NHL history has 96 points not been enough to make the playoffs.

So why are people worried about the defense? On the Penguins' roster, only three players have more than seven points thus far: Sidney Crosby, Miroslav Satan, and Evgeni Malkin. No one else has half as many points as Crosby or Malkin. The Pens are ranked 26th in the league with only 26.5

shots per game. They are ranked 23rd in the league in goals for with 2.58 per game. Those are the stats that would worry me if I were a Pittsburgh fan. With the amount of talent on this team, why are they not scoring? And with so little offense on this team, why are they still so successful?

Well, their two goalies are dominating the league. Marc-Andre Fleury has a .925 save percentage and a 2.34 goals against average, while backup goalie Dany Sabourin has a .957 save percentage and a 1.45 goals against average.

Those are pretty daunting numbers for two young goalies in the NHL. The defense is also holding their own, as one can see with the number of wins the team has.

The team has indeed stepped up its defense, as Kris Letang and Alex Goligoski are two of the top defensemen on the team this year. The defense has accounted for 17 of the team's 69 points already, good for almost 20 percent, which is not bad; their play in the defensive zone has also been very impressive.

Perhaps the team should be more worried about getting the line combinations correct and obtaining more goals from the forwards rather than beefing up on defense.

It's true that defense wins championships, but it also is true that you do need to be able to score goals. The best defense, as they say, is a good offense; and the Penguins don't seem to have much of that right now.

*Note: All the stats in this article are as of 11/2/08*

## 'Berg Field Hockey season ends too soon

By Ben Levine  
LIFE! EDITOR

Despite a considerable amount of fortitude at the end of the season, the Muhlenberg Field Hockey Team fell short of the playoffs. The Mules were in the cellar of the Centennial Conference early (3-7, 0-3). However, they fought hard to end the season 8-10. While other teams might have given up, the Mules did not, winning a slugfest at Swarthmore. In the next game, the Mules won a thriller against rival-Johns Hopkins. The overtime victory appeared to be the catalyst the Mules needed to spark their playoff run. The Mules were poised to make the playoffs after winning two more games to bring their record to 8-8, 4-4. However, they were set to play undefeated-in-Conference Ursinus (13-2, 8-0) and Gettysburg (12-5, 7-1). The Mules lost both games. The end of the season is particularly devastating because of the promise and perseverance the team showed all year.

The seniors will be missed. Senior goalie Michelle Consiglio shined all year with four shutouts and a save percentage of 74.7 - fourth in the

Centennial Conference. Seniors Julie deLaurentis (member of the Centennial Conference Honor Roll) and Cara Rothacker contributed to the Mules' season with four points each and leadership in the back and mid-field. Finally, senior defender Kristin Garbutt's (member of the Centennial Conference Honor Roll and the recipient of the Defensive Player of the Week) play ascended statistics. She still finished the season tied for fourth in the Conference with an average of .3 defensive saves per game.

The future is bright for the Lady Mules. Junior midfielder Tara Cohn earned a spot on the Centennial Conference Honor Roll and finished the season with a colossal 28 points, including two game-winning goals. Junior forwards Nicki Notarianni and Kristen Sabia finished with 15 points and 12 points respectively, both with a game-winning goal.

Sophomore midfielder/defender Jess Kasza had 10 points with 2 game-winning goals. The surprise of the season was freshman forward Jillian Katz. In just 12 games, she scored four goals, had two assists, and one game-winning goal.



Left: Senior co-captain goalie Michelle Consiglio started every game in the season and recorded 4 shutouts; Right: Freshman midfielder Shelby Smith



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Mules silence comeback efforts by Dickinson and prevail 31-25

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Muhlenberg's Football Team left early on Saturday morning knowing they were going into a battle when they arrived in Carlisle, PA. Dickinson was not going to forget about last year's game when it seemed the Red Devils would cruise to a victory at Scotty Wood Stadium. Early in the second quarter, Dickinson led 17-0, but the Mules battled back to only trail at the half by 1 and would eventually win 29-24. This year's game was scripted completely differently.

The Mules jumped out to a big lead after the first quarter, but a couple miscues had them only up 2 at half. However, Muhlenberg showed why it is ranked #2 in the country and battling through the hostile crowd of 4,100 and defeating Dickinson (4-4, 3-3), 31-25. Also, with the win the Mules claimed a share of the Centennial Conference title for the sixth time in eight seasons. They can win it outright with a win over Ursinus this weekend or Moravian on Nov. 15.

The first quarter started off with a bang as the Red Devils scored in less than 3 minutes to put them on top 7-0. However, the Mules didn't just have one response; they had three. Muhlenberg scored on its first three drives (two touchdowns by senior John DeLuca and one by junior Phil Cresta) to put the Mules up 21-7 after the first quarter. The second quarter proved to be a tough one for the 'Berg. Dickinson connected on a field goal early in the second to cut the lead to 11. On the next Muhlenberg drive, the Red Devils blocked a punt which turned into a safety. As time was running down in the half, quarterback Ian Mitchell drove Dickinson 78 yards in just

7 plays and he capped off the drive on 31 yard touchdown run, bringing the score to 21-19 Mules at halftime.

After there was no scoring in the 3rd, Muhlenberg took over on the Red Devil 31 after a great punt return by senior Brandon Doyle. Four straight rushes by DeLuca placed the ball on the 1 yard line, and then senior Erik Snyder finished off the drive with a touchdown to put the Mules up by 9. On the ensuing drive, Dickinson only needed 6 plays to go 70 yards and cut the lead back to 3. The Mules fumbled the kickoff and Dickinson looked to be in good shape to take the lead for the first time in the game. But Doyle had other ideas. Doyle picked off Mitchell at the Muhlenberg 22. Sophomore Michael Katz would hit a 33 yard field goal on the drive to push the lead back to 6. Dickinson would not reach the end zone again as the defense made some key stops including a sack by junior Jeremiah Lachaud and consecutive pass break ups by junior Cameron Ahouse.

DeLuca had another stellar day as he racked up 141 yards on 24 carries and 2 touchdowns. Cresta had a career high 160 receiving yards on 8 catches and touchdown. Senior quarterback Eric Santagato was 17-23 for 224 yards and ran for another 37. Katz tied a school record with his 36th consecutive extra point.

The Mules return home this weekend and will honor their 16 seniors on Senior Day against the Ursinus Bears (3-5, 2-4). With a win, the Mules would claim their second consecutive outright Centennial Conference title and would receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The game will kickoff at 1 p.m. at Scotty Wood Stadium.



Left: Sophomore linebacker Pat McDonough and sophomore rover Mark Accomando take down the Red Devils' quarterback; Right: Senior running back John DeLuca rumbles through Dickinson's defensive line with the help of sophomore offensive lineman Mark Bigelli.



# Provost Hass to become fifteenth President of Austin College

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

The College's Provost, Dr. Marjorie Hass, has been named President of Austin College in Sherman, Texas.

Dr. Hass has been a member of the College's faculty since 1993 as a professor of philosophy in addition on interim vice president of academic affairs and interim dean of faculty. Dr. Hass received her Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts in Philosophy, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Since she started working at the College she has received a Creative Teaching Grant from the Faculty Center for Teaching, five Faculty Summer Research Grants, the Paul C. Empie Memorial Award for Distinguished Teaching, and the Donald B. Hoffman Research Fellowship. She was the director of the Muhlenberg College Center for Ethics from 2000 to 2003, and worked as a faculty observer to the Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2002. She has also served on the Faculty Personnel and Policies Committee, the Budget Advisory Committee and the Academic Policies Committee.

Dr. Hass teaches Philosophy here

at the College and her specialties within the subject are philosophy of logic, philosophy of language and feminist philosophy. She is the author of a myriad of published articles and co-editor of a book, "Representing Reason: Feminist Theory and Formal Logic," with Rachel Joffe Falmagne. Her husband, Dr. Lawrence Hass is also a professor of philosophy at the College as well as a professor of theatre arts and director of the Theory and Art of Magic program at the College.

Austin College was founded in 1849 and is a private, coeducational, liberal arts institution affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. The College stretches for 70 acres through Sherman, Texas. The College has 1320 undergraduate students and is able to boast that it was the first college in the state of Texas to grant a graduate degree.

Dr. Hass will replace Dr. Oscar C. Page who has been the President of Austin College since 1994, and she will become the fifteenth President of the College. Dr. Hass will begin her work with the College on July 1, 2009.

"There's no question that Austin College has hit a home-run with this appointment," said President Helm. "Margie is a woman of parts: a brilliant and accomplished scholar,

a gifted administrator and problem-solver, and a visionary leader. She has a knack for putting people at ease and for motivating them to act. She understands and respects the work of the faculty and enjoys the company of students. Most important, she is a woman of courage and integrity - who knows what's right and doesn't hesitate to do it. We are going to miss Margie here at Muhlenberg, where she has accomplished so much, but she is going to be a great president for Austin College."

As Provost, Dr. Hass manages all fiscal and personnel aspects of the academic program. She oversees eighteen department heads as well as the Dean of Academic Life, the office of International Programs, the Wescoe School, the registrar's office, the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding, the Martin Art Gallery, the Entrepreneurship Institute, the Center for Ethics and the RJ Fellowship Program.

"As testament to its increasing national stature," said chair of the Austin College Board of Trustees, Robert M. Johnson, "Austin College attracted a strong field of outstanding candidates for its leadership position. The selection of Dr. Hass is affirmation of our



Provost Hass has been working at the College since 1993. Now the 2008-2009 year will be her last year with the College.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

confidence that she is a rising star ideally suited to define and realize what we know will be a continued bright future for the College."

Muhlenberg is sad to see her leave after fifteen years of hard work but wishes Dr. Hass only the best as she pursues her exciting new position at Austin College.

# President Helm addresses the new student government

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY MANAGING EDITOR

On Thurs. Nov. 6, President Peyton (Randy) Helm addressed Student Government regarding various topics. Concerning the letter written on behalf of the college faculty and staff addressing a recent spike in student vandalism and carelessness, he reiterated that he firmly believes that the letter was aimed at a small portion of the students at the College. "It is my belief that we are dealing with a very small minority of the student body and that a vast majority are mature and responsible and don't deserve to be grouped in with the other students." President Helm explained that he, Dean Green, Campus Safety and Judicial have come up with a more comprehensive plan to respond to disruptive behavior affecting the surrounding community.

President Helm spoke of a number of "green" initiative ideas that have been raised by Student Government and the Board of Directors. An idea

that he claims he is steadfastly supportive of is the elimination of plastic water bottles on campus. He also put some "hypothetical" ideas on the table. Recently, it was determined that in order for the entire campus to run on solar power, it would cost the college \$70 million and would pay for itself after 60 years. While impractical, the idea provides a basis off of which the rest of Student Government could branch ideas. Finally, President Helm explained how important Student Government is to the college as he said "I cannot get these done by myself. The Board of Directors will only consider these changes if [Student Government] pushes for them."

After President Helm left, President of Student Council, Sara Keller '10, announced that Student Council had officially changed its name to Student Government. With that business taken care of, SEE STUDENT GOVERNMENT | PAGE 5



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
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Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## Take two

Our reputation as the "Caring College" is a bit unstable. At times, the label rings unmistakably true and at others it has been mumbled with sarcasm and bitterness. Now, though, it seems like the nickname is making a comeback.

In a letter to the student body, President Helm, the administration, and student leaders signed the list of embarrassments attributed to the College this year. The main offenses were alcohol abuse and, as the letter stated, that the number of hospital transports and alcohol violations has increased dramatically since last year. These are statistics we, as students, should not be proud of. We make up this College, so we ultimately decide its reputation, and for our sakes, as well as the administration and alumni, it should be a positive one.

One of our most widely-read sections of the paper is the list of campus safety notes, and since that means we read them as well, we have noticed a new trend. A less embarrassing trend, a trend that attests to the maturity of the students who attend Muhlenberg. Recently, we have published fewer campus safety notes regarding alcohol related incidents. Maybe people are just learning how to get away with it and are not actually being more responsible, but we'd like to think that our peers are not as devious as that. Maybe the students decided it was time to take a stand. We heard through the grapevine that students on 22nd Street were seen cleaning up outside their properties a few weeks ago, so they obviously took the advice to heart...why shouldn't everybody else?

Since the issue was addressed and not avoided, it is possible that students have realized that their actions not only embarrassed the College, but embarrassed themselves as well. We hope that students, ourselves included, are maturing and starting to take personal responsibility for our actions. In fact, we feel it is ok to call this a new beginning, and one that happened at the just the right time. Students are turning over new leafs in lots of ways. We are finishing up this semester, for one thing. Taking on more responsibilities can only lead to progress, and will help us for the rest of our lives.

## Accepting the outcome of the election

By Lauren Spirko & Steven Kalman  
PRESIDENT & VP, COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

After a long campaign season with its share of twist and turns and ups and downs, the American people have spoken loud and clear. They want Barack Obama as the next President of the United States. As Republicans, we know that it is very easy to become bitter at the prospect of having a Democrat in the oval office. But, we are confident that these feelings will wane with time. As Americans, we must show deep respect for our President, especially in difficult times. We must trust that Mr. Obama will have the interests of *all* Americans at heart when he makes challenging decisions. After having time to cool down after the election, we believe that we Republicans can trust Barack Obama to not just be a Democratic President, but an American President.

President-elect Obama ran an incredible campaign; he and all of those involved deserve to be commended. His campaign mobilized those that normally do not go to the polls, including young people and minorities. Senator McCain ran a terrific campaign as well, but this election atmosphere was not with the Republicans. We are ending the term of a very unpopular Republican president. We are in a war that many do not support, but more importantly, we have been falling deeper and deeper into an economic recession. This economic crisis has been unfairly attributed almost exclusively to the Republicans, even though we know that it has been a bipartisan blunder. Considering this atmosphere in conjunction with some gaffs by the McCain campaign, we Republicans were at a severe disadvantage in this election cycle.

Undoubtedly, Americans thought Democrats were best suited to handle one of the most challenging moments in our nation's history. We Republicans must accept and respect this decision, but do not be mistaken. We will not be silent. We will not shut down in a time when our party is not in power. Republicans must remain active and loud. And we will tell you now that America will know when we are upset with government. She will hear us as we dissent, and she will listen.

All of those who have followed this election will not forget it or its historical significance. Moreover, we hope that people will not forget that our country was able to come together as one after a bitter and partisan election season. No matter who we supported in this election, we are all Americans. As the great John McCain once said, "Americans never quit. We never surrender. We never hide from history. We make history."

## A bittersweet victory

By Ben Levine  
LIFE EDITOR

Many see the election of Barack Obama as the culmination of the civil rights era. As the first civil rights era closes, it is time to pick up the banner of the second civil rights era. This time, the debate will not be race. This time, the concern will be sexuality.

I woke up the morning after the election completely elated. However, I soon became concerned with the trend among the local ballot measures.

Arizona and Florida passed acts saying that the states would not recognize gay marriage. California, one of the few states that originally allowed gay couples to be married, repealed the right. Worst of all, Arkansas banned homosexual couples from adopting children. These measures seem to be total dismissals of same-sex couples' right to the "pursuit of happiness."

There are parallels between the treatment of blacks in United States history and the present oppression of homosexuals. Many people have problems with the religious implications of marriage between two people of the same sex but do not oppose a non-religious union between two men or two women.

Some would feel more comfortable with different terms to refer to same-sex marriages and heterosexual marriages. However, this shows signs of the "separate but equal" ruling of Plessy v. Ferguson, 163 U.S. 537. There is legitimacy in the term "marriage" because it is the common phrase and there are several connotations that coincide with it.

Calling a marriage between a homosexual couple anything but "marriage" encourages a view of their union as unequal. Americans know far too well that the implication of inequality soon "generates a feeling of inferiority as to their sta-

tus in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely to be undone," as Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (The Supreme Court case which repealed Plessy v. Ferguson), says.

Nothing indicates the fact that the United States is going in the wrong direction concerning gay marriage than events in the recent presidential debate.

During the vice presidential debate, both candidates denied that they supported gay marriage. When asked further, Joe Biden, now vice president elect, said that, "[Neither] Barack Obama nor I support redefining from a civil side what constitutes marriage." If this is truly the administration of change, why not allow the definition of marriage to include "a man and a woman" and "two men or two

women"? Obama's victory could signal a turn in the right direction. A black man became president in a country that once allowed slavery. What is to say that one day someone who is openly homosexual will not become president? However, there is a disconcerting side. The first slave auction in America was in 1655. It took, arguably, over 350 years to fully overcome blatant racism. It is impossible to know when the first homosexual landed in America because homosexuality as an identity is a recent phenomenon. However, Harvey Milk (the most famous instance of an openly gay politician), was elected to office thirty-five years ago. How long will it take for the second civil rights era to come to a conclusion?

*There are parallels between the treatment of blacks in U.S. history and the present oppression of homosexuals.*



# A convincing win



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

The results of this year's Presidential election marked the end of an era. The Republican Party's domination of national politics was brought to a screeching halt, thanks to a convincing victory by Barack Obama. After razor thin margin of victories for George W. Bush in 2000 and 2004, Obama scored a decisive win that allowed most of us to get to bed a little after midnight.

He dominated in battleground states, stole some of the mid-west and South, and carried the traditional blue strongholds on the

coasts. It was only in the deep South, that McCain found any comfortable victories and those victories certainly weren't enough to bring him anywhere near the amount of needed electoral votes.

The election night victory capped a brilliantly run campaign by Barack Obama, which completely upstaged a slow-reacting and poorly planned opposition. The Republican Party is now out of the White House and in the minority in both the House and Senate.

There have been some rumors of Sarah Palin actually being a serious candidate for them as a Presidential candidate in 2012, which shows how far they have fallen. It is time for Republicans to decide whether their party will be dominated by Evangelicals, and the radical neo-conservatism of Palin and George W. Bush or shift back towards the center of the political spectrum.

In 2004, when somebody was voting for John Kerry all they could tell you was why they didn't like George W. Bush. In 2008, when somebody was voting for John McCain all they

could tell you was why they didn't like Barack Obama. They didn't articulate any support for McCain's policies, it was all empty attacks on Obama's past and supposed inexperience.

The Republicans never found a message to run John McCain on. All they could come up with was the old Karl Rove fear attacks, of trying to scare people away from voting for Obama by labeling him as a Socialist or an individual with ties to terrorists. The message didn't work this year, as Republicans were trounced in the key battleground states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Florida.

Barack Obama doesn't enter an easy situation. He has a mounting economic crisis to deal with, which will likely dominate his early actions in office. This is a difficult time as President Bush finishes out his last two months, when immediate action is needed. Obama may be forced to work with the President now on getting through a stimulus package. Our country's problems can't wait until January 20 when Obama is inaugurated.

*Obama scored a decisive win. He dominated in battleground states and carried the traditional blue strongholds.*

## What happened to our Electorate?

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

This past Election Day was a major milestone in United States history. America overwhelmingly elected its first African American president. Aside from the heavily followed presidential election, the Democrats picked up about twenty seats in the House and about four seats in the Senate. The 2008 election proved to be an important turning point in American politics. As responsible citizens it is necessary for us to look beyond the numbers and to ponder the reasons why and how certain office seekers were elected.

It is easy to describe most voters as "somewhat" informed about the two presidential candidates, but the outlook on voter knowledge about local candidates is not so positive. The most revealing question to ask is, how did you decide to vote for John Doe for Congress or Jane Doe for state representative?

*All of these candidates could have a direct impact on Allentown; and the fact that many citizens entered the polls and blindly voted for these candidates is mind blowing.*

Unfortunately, the answers many voters gave were a little startling. Let's examine two local races that took place in Allentown. One race was for the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Charlie Dent (R), the incumbent, and Sam Bennett were seeking to represent the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania. A second local race was for State Representative of the 132nd Legislative District of Pennsylvania. Mike Welsh was running to unseat the five term incumbent, Rep. Jennifer Mann (D). All of these candidates could have a direct impact on the citizens of Allentown. The fact that many citizens entered the polls and blindly voted for some of these candidates is mind blowing.

A significant number of voters were unfamiliar with the names Mann or Welsh. It is surprising that many claim to have made responsible decisions when they did not recognize either of the names running for state representative. In fact, there was a great degree of unfamiliarity with the office of state representative. Voters could not tell the difference between the

SEE ELECTORATE  
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# Reform student government

By Ian Costello  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

*This speech was made on November 6, 2008 to Student Government based solely on the experience of Ian Costello, a Representative for the Class of 2009 and also a Class Council member for 2009.*

My name is Ian Costello, I am a representative of the Class of 2009. I just have a statement that I would like to make based on my short but very eventful experience here at Student Council.

I address you tonight, not as a student government leader, nor as a student body member, but as an individual working with no connections to any organization or individual. I have cleared my conscience and this is the result.

I had an interesting meeting with one of our very gracious and giving administrators, and basically I got to hash through what I had to say, and I really appreciate that person's time. So, I would like to present to you what I have been working on since, pretty much, day one of my experience here.

We are a group that should be based on prestige but right now the student body sees us as an elitist group. I think that is disgusting and it is up to us to change that. There are some organizations - the tour guides, for example - that have come to the foreground in terms of being a prestigious group. Because of this, there are waiting lists now to become a tour guide. And the fact that we can barely get people to run for offices here is sad.

Basically we have lost touch with the student body and in so doing the student body lost interest in what we have to do and say. And I think

that needs to change. Being on council is a privilege, not a right, so we can't treat it as a right. There needs to be a lot more openness, transparency and accountability.

When I studied abroad last semester in Ireland and Northern Ireland, I wrote a forty-five page report on the Police Service of Northern Ireland and their attempts to become transparent and accountable. Then I came here and I got elected to Student Council, and I see some of the problems that they were having. I would like to see that change. What I see here is a council that considers itself above the student body, and there should be no hierarchy.

Alex Lotorto mentioned they are essentially our leaders, and we are their servants. We should not shepherd them into initiatives that we have deemed appropriate on their behalf. But instead we should be working for them, based on what they had told us they want to do. I think that there needs to be more interaction between our group and the student body.

Despite it not happening much since I've been here, I have noticed that the movers and the shakers of this body are silenced out of fear of change. And fear of change means that we have become comfortable and settled in the power that we now have. But it is not our power, it is given to us by the students. Getting back to the student body is a process in which both we and the student body have to take part. But as the student government it is our job to make that first move. Because they have lost interest and touch with us we need to be the ones who will regain their trust.

Now you may have thought that what I have

said is just an attack on the student government, but you must remember that I have made a number of suggested starting points. If I had no faith in this body's ability to change and operate as an effective representative body I would not be here asking for your cooperation.

I hold faith and hope that this student government can overcome its short-comings and emerge like a phoenix, stronger than before, and that despite appearances and common practice and opinion we are not simply another Greek organization. I really don't mean to come down on gavel games, but I was asked after them what party I was with and what I was doing. I said, "This is a student council bonding initiative." To which they responded, "Oh, this is what you guys do?"

I think that we need to operate on a much more effective and open level. Peter Breadlau said that we need to start taking credit for more things, and I think that is the first step. We need to stamp everything that we do with a massive "Student Government" stamp that says we are doing this for you, the student body, because we were elected by you to represent you.

You can write me off like you do other campus activists, but that will prove that everything that I have said here is more true than I could possibly imagine. This is our chance for change and our opportunity to do it, so don't let this slip through our fingers.

As I was told once, I have strange allies and even stranger enemies here in this government. My goal here is not to make enemies, but I will accept any and all adversity I encounter. Thank you very much.

## It's cookin', are you in the kitchen?

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

For the past few weeks, members of Students for a Democratic Society (SdS) have been circulating copies of the first draft of a Muhlenberg Students' Bill of Rights, compiled from other private colleges' bills, and building a coalition of more than two hundred students to help mold it into a document which we can all agree with.

It may seem like common sense, or even trivial to some, but it's important for all the reasons I listed last week ("Why a Students' Bill of Rights?"). Most of all, again, it will empower students with an explicit list of rights within the Social Code that are protected from other students, faculty, and staff.

Now, the most important part of raising the Bill is of course, democracy! And not just any stale, win-lose election, or secretive Student Council resolution, but a broad, participatory consensus among a diversity of students. That means we need you to participate!

Here's how: sign the petition supporting the working draft, get on our mailing list, and make proposals for changes on our forum! You can sign the petition either in person as we go door to door, table to table, or on Facebook by joining the group "I support a Muhlenberg Students' Bill of Rights!"

Tonight (Thursday), we will have a reading of the Bill at 6 P.M. during the Alma Mater in Parents Plaza outside Seegers. We, the students, will be celebrating our work thus far and at 7 P.M. we will attend the Student Council meeting in 3rd floor Haas to invite Student Council (again) to participate in proposing changes. Many members have been ignoring the revisions process and need to be reminded that they shouldn't complain about it if they aren't participating!

Then starting tonight, a second round of revisions will take place until next Tuesday evening's Student Body Association meeting, where we need your help to make it pass!

To participate in the revisions, you must either join the Facebook group or sign the petition in person to receive instructions.

Big authority figures at the College have been hesitant to support any initiative that does not have obvious broad support among the students, so let's show them what democracy looks like!

### ELECTORATE

FROM PAGE 3

roles of representatives from the House and the PA State Legislature. Often, poll volunteers had to explain that the Congressional candidates would represent Allentown in Washington, D.C. and the state representative candidates would represent this district in Harrisburg. How could voters make an informed decision if they are unaware of the offices these candidates are seeking? Knowledge of any of the candidates' platforms was just about nonexistent. One voter was asked if she knew what Rep. Mann's campaign goals were. She responded by saying Mann's platform was being a Democrat.

People had no idea what Charlie Dent has voted for in the House or any of the legislation he has authored, they were unaware of Mike Welsh's pledge to clean up Allentown's streets and reform the police force, and many could not recognize Sam Bennett's face when she was greeting voters. One young voter said she voted against Charlie Dent, but when asked who she voted for instead of Charlie Dent, she could not remember. Well, there were only two candidates for the U.S. House listed on the ballot, if it wasn't Dent by default it must have been Bennett. It is sad to say that some voters were just not receptive to any information about the candidates. These voters were reluctant to learn anything about candidates from either party.

In order for a government, both state and national, to be effective there have to be competent members running it. Americans have a duty to look into their politicians' backgrounds. The public can not forget that all voting records, committee hearings, and floor speeches are public record. The practice of blindly voting party line is driving many qualified candidates away from running for office.

This trend in voting should raise concern among all Americans. The huge turnout of uninformed voters creates a great disadvantage to political candidates, both Republicans and Democrats. Of course Presidential Elections are closely watched, but what about the local campaigns? These candidates tend to receive the straight party vote. Voters just go for the R or the D with out even knowing who these politicians are or what they are promising. It is okay to vote for one party, but voters should research candidates before casting their ballots. The public needs to actively participate in the U.S. political system. We need to realize that other countries look up to America's voting process as a role model for their systems. Let's work towards upholding that vision the Founders had of an interested, knowledgeable citizenry.



# History Club travels to Gettysburg

By Jamey Koury  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

On Sunday Nov the 9, the Muhlenberg College History Club traveled to Gettysburg. The History Club has grown considerably over the semester, gaining enthusiastic new members and leadership. Many of the club's members traveled to Gettysburg for the first time on the 9th and had a fantastic time. The club arranged to meet with a self taught battlefield historian who spoke as if he had served on Jul 1 through the 3 in 1863.

The club toured Little Round Top, McPherson's Ridge, Devils Den, Triangle Field, Cemetery Ridge, and the area of Pickett's Charge, and also other areas of the battlefield not seen on a usual tour. Liz Martini '11 commented, "Being able to walk on the same battlefield that so many Americans fought and died on over 145 years ago was a meaningful and memorable experience." The History Club has seen a renaissance and

its members have decided to further their interests in history by hosting presentations by a reenactor from the Civil War through World War II, in addition to traveling to historical locations and hosting a veteran presentation at the College.

On Nov 19 the History Club is proud to host to five Pearl Harbor Survivors, a USS Hornet CV 8 survivor, a member from the 101 Airborne who took part in the D-day invasions and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. The Club is also excited to welcome the Vietnam Era veterans who served in the Spec-ops and Green Berets. This free event is open to all students and starts at 5:30 P.M. in the Great Room on Wed Nov 19. Mark your calendars! This is an awesome opportunity to hear the accounts of veterans who actually fought during some of the most trying times of the 20th Century.

For more information about the veteran presentation or the History Club please contact History Club President Matt Fash and mf234019@muhlenberg.edu.

*"Being able to walk on the same battlefield that so many Americans fought and died on...was a meaningful ... experience."*



Smiling students pose for a picture in front of a regimental monument.

PHOTO BY THE HISTORY CLUB

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT | FROM PAGE 1

Government moved to its normal order of business. The president of each class gave updates on events they are planning and committee heads updated the rest of Student Government on what their respective committees had been working on over the past week.

When the opportunity came for Government members to speak on the floor, senior Representative Ian Costello took the floor. He spoke of how he is concerned that Student Government has lost touch with the Student Body. "...The student body sees us as an elitist group and I think, that is disgusting." He said that the "movers and shakers of the student body have been silenced for fear of change." He backed off his remarks a little by say-

ing "I believe that Student Government has the ability to address and overcome these shortcomings."

Vice President of Student Government, Jordan Sones '10, admitted that it has been known that these problems have existed. He cited the upcoming Student Government bonding retreat that will help alleviate these problems. Sones finished by saying, "The 24th Student Government has a new name, new vision and a new body. We will overcome these problems." Senior representative Jason LaMarca admitted that he is concerned about a developing rift within council and members should "take a step back and realize that we're all working towards the same goal." And with that, Student Government adjourned.

# Muhlenberg College is awarded 2008 Solar Scholars Grant

By Steven Epting  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

The Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF) announced last Monday that Muhlenberg College would be one of twelve Pennsylvania colleges awarded the "Solar Scholars Program" grant this year. As a recipient in this year's Solar Scholars competition, the College will receive \$15,000 towards the installation of a photovoltaic solar panel system.

Incorporated into the renovations of Seeger's Student Union, scheduled to begin early next semester, the 3 kW solar panel system will be installed on the roof during the summer 2009. The system will feature two parts: a 0.5 kW pole-mounted system and a 2.5 kW system on a nearby section of flat roof.

The SEF was established in 1999 as part of settlement approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. It is a private, 501(c) 3, non-profit organization that promotes energy efficiency, renewable

energy and energy education initiatives in Pennsylvania, with a focus on Eastern and Central PA. As part of their education outreach, the SEF, with funding from PPL Electric Utilities, began the Solar Scholars Program in 2006 with seven participating colleges.

In its third year, this annual program promotes the adoption and integration of renewable energy concepts and technologies into the curriculum of Pennsylvania colleges, universities and other institutions of higher learning.

For an introduction to the Solar Scholars Program, the College sent both professor and student representatives to a week-long Solar Scholars Conference at Dickinson College in late July. Conference attendees learned about the science behind photovoltaic solar panel systems, as well as how colleges can successfully incorporate clean, renewable energies like solar into their campus sustainability plans.

Following the conference, the Campus Greening Committee and students from the Environmental

Action Team (EnAcT) pursued the grant process early this semester. Headed by Jane Flood, Associate Professor and Chair of the Physics department, the Solar Scholars grant application process was an interdisciplinary effort, including administration, faculty/staff and student co-authors.

In addition to providing a source of clean, renewable energy to the College, the solar panels will be integrated into several physics and biology classes. Students will assist in measuring and comparing the efficacy of the two systems. Additionally, students will work with the computer science department, the physics equipment manager and Cara Owens, the College sustainability coordinator, to create a web page that displays the power generation from the solar panels.

Dr. Rich Niesenbaum, a Greening Committee member and grant co-author, said that "the new solar panels will not only serve as a visible symbol of Muhlenberg's commitment to sustainability, but will also

provide students with hands-on opportunities to manipulate and study the effectiveness of this alternate form of energy."

The Solar Scholars grant is just one piece of the College's efforts to address sustainability and environmental consciousness on campus. Other campus programs include the successful transition to a single-stream recycling system, LEED certification of the New Science Building and Plant Operations' installation of more energy-efficient lighting and technologies throughout campus buildings.

"Acquiring this grant required collaboration between students, faculty and administration, and really showed that Muhlenberg cares about working with the students to obtain what students feel is important. This solar panel system will also be a visual cue that will indicate to people that Muhlenberg cares about renewable energies and the environment" said EnAcT vice president Jackie Dearborn.



# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Thompson - Art History

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Margo Thompson is an Assistant Professor of Art History new to the College this semester. She teaches Contemporary Art and Art History II, and is also teaching the First Year Seminar "Arresting Images" with Dr. Ara Osterweil. Next semester, Dr. Thompson will offer a course in women and art, Art History II and Modern Art.

When asked about her interest in art, Dr. Thompson expressed that she enjoys talking to contemporary artists. "I find it fascinating, the way the visual arts seem inexhaustible as objects to study and discuss," she reflected. "Any given set of questions you could ask about a work of art inevitably leaves other questions unanswered."

Her study of art began at St. John's College in Annapolis, MD and by working at a contemporary art gallery in Santa Fe, NM for several years. She decided to continue studying art in graduate school, attending the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where she studied modern art history, criticism, and theory. The school was intriguing to her not only for its connection to the arts but for its affiliation with one of our country's great museums.

In her graduate studies and work as a teaching assistant, Dr. Thompson discovered that she

wanted to go into teaching herself. She applied to Northwestern University of Evanston, IL, where she went on to pursue a doctorate in Art History. After taking a broad spectrum of art history courses, including classes in nineteenth and twentieth century art, Northern Renaissance and Medieval art, and women's studies, she chose to write her dissertation on 1970's feminist art.

Following her schooling and prior to coming to Allentown, Dr. Thompson taught at numerous universities, most recently at the University of Vermont, and previously at Bucknell University, the University of Notre Dame, and Illinois State University.

After teaching at Vermont and Bucknell, she hoped to continue teaching at liberal arts colleges with welcoming atmospheres similar to those schools at which she had worked previously. With this in mind, she recalled, "I was delighted to see the opening at Muhlenberg."

Dr. Thompson now lives in a house near campus that is owned by the College with her husband, and both were happy to relocate from Vermont to the cultural Allentown area. They enjoy the Lehigh Valley not only for its proximity to major cities such as New York and Philadelphia, but for the localities that it has to offer, especially the Farmer's Market. Dr. Thompson especially appreciates her new home's proximity to the College, saying that she enjoys

walking to work.

Dr. Thompson has enjoyed her first semester at the College, especially in getting to know her students and fellow faculty members. She has also appreciated numerous school events, including the recent talks by Guillermo Gomez-Peña and Kate Bornstein and the openings at the Martin Art Gallery.

In her free time, Dr. Thompson enjoys continuing her research. She is currently composing an anthology of articles about lesbians and art as well as finishing a book on New York graffiti art. She also likes cooking, reading about and preparing food, and said that she and her husband have a rather demanding cat, who commands much of their spare time.

Next year and in her future at the College, Dr. Thompson plans to introduce some new courses to the College community, including a course in African American art, which she will offer in the upcoming academic year as a part of the African American Studies minor. The History of Modern Architecture and The History of Photography are courses that she also hopes to offer in the future, in addition to her standard courses of Art History I and II, Modern Art, and Contemporary Art.

The College wishes to welcome Dr. Thompson and looks forward to her further contributions to the College community.

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## Weekend Weather

Friday

Saturday

Sunday



Few  
Showers

High: 57  
Low: 49



Showers

High: 54  
Low: 34



Partly  
Cloudy

High: 46  
Low: 31

# New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

## Write for News!

Email

[theweeklynews@gmail.com](mailto:theweeklynews@gmail.com)



# New director of Multicultural Center: Robin Riley-Casey

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The College has recently named a new director of the Multicultural Center and Multicultural Life. As of Nov. 3, Robin Riley-Casey was named to this position, and will therefore oversee the Office of Multicultural Life, to which the Multicultural Center is home.

Riley-Casey's experience in this field includes working as the Admissions Transfer and Multicultural coordinator at Lourdes College in Ohio, which she began in 2006. She also began instructing sociology and cultural diversity courses at Northwest State Community College, also in Ohio, a year later.

The College's new Multicultural Center director received her Bachelor's Degree in sociology from Lourdes College and a Master's in

Education from Ohio University. She followed her education through serving numerous roles at Ohio University, including precollege coordinator, graduate assistant, sociology instructor and student achievement in research and scholarship coordinator, from 2003 to 2005. She then worked for a year as a hall monitor and had her first job as a multicultural coordinator at Hamline University in Saint Paul, MN. In 2006, Riley-Casey returned to Ohio, at which point she was named Co-developer and Coordinator of Lourdes College Diversity and Multicultural Service Office. She is currently working towards her Master of Arts in sociology at Ohio University.

When Riley-Casey comes to the

College, her work with the Multicultural Center will encourage the Center's mission to serve as a campus wide resource that facilitates and promotes a learning community of multicultural understanding and exchange through collaboration, dialogue, and action. In addition to overseeing the Office of Multicultural Life, she will coordinate and plan events that the Center sponsors and offers students, which in the past have included visiting speakers, movie showings, and workshops.

The Multicultural Center is home to numerous student clubs, all of which are highly active on campus. They are the Asian Student Association, Black Student Association, Comunidad Latina, Gay-Straight Alliance, International

Student Association, and Soul Sound Steppers. The Center's web site offers links to pages giving information about each of these clubs, their activities and events on campus, and contact information.

Academic courses are also a part of the Office of Multicultural Life. The office offers sixty different classes that meet the Diversity and Difference General Academic Requirement and encourage students to carry out the Multicultural Center's mission.

The web site also elaborates on this mission. "The Center is committed to promoting and sustaining an inclusive atmosphere that fosters and enriches multicultural understanding among all members of the Muhlenberg and Lehigh Valley community," it states. All in all, students active in the Multicultural Center and its student clubs strive to make a difference.

*"...students active in the Multicultural Center...strive to make a difference"*

## OFF CAMPUS

### *Secret order lets U.S. raid Al Qaeda*

According to senior American officials, since 2004 the United States military has used secret authority to carry out nearly a dozen previously unrevealed attacks against Al Qaeda and other militants including but not limited to Syria and Pakistan.

These military raids are typically carried out by Special Operations forces and were authorized by a classified order that Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld signed in the spring of 2004 with the approval of President Bush. The secret order gave the military new authority to attack the Al Qaeda terrorist network anywhere in the world. It also gave permission to conduct operations in countries not at war with the United States.

For example, in 2006, a Navy Seal team raided a suspected militants' compound in the Bajaur region of Pakistan, according to a former top official of the CIA. Some of the military missions have been conducted in close coordination with the CIA.

In the past four years as many as a dozen additional operations have been canceled. In these cases, senior administration officials had decided that the missions were too risky, were too discreetly explosive or relied on insufficient evidence.

More than a half-dozen officials, including current and former military and intelligence officials as well as senior Bush administration policy makers, described details of the 2004 military order on the condition of anonymity because of its politically delicate nature.

Apart from the 2006 raid into Pakistan, the American officials refused to describe in detail what they said had been nearly a dozen previously undisclosed attacks. However, they made clear that there had been no raids into Iran using that authority, but they suggested that American forces had carried out exploration missions in Iran using other classified commands.

According to a senior administration official, the new authority was spelled out in a classified document called "Al Qaeda Network Exord," or execute order, that streamlined the approval process for the military to act outside officially declared war zones.

### *Obama's first priority in the White House*

With the economy in dismay and the nation's treasury draining, President-elect Barack Obama and his advisers are trying to figure out which of his expansive campaign promises to push in the opening months in office and which to put on a slower track.

On Saturday, Mr. Obama repeated that his first priority would be an economic recovery program to get the nation's business system back on track and people back to work. However, advisers said the question is whether they can tackle health care, climate change and energy independence all at once or should they stagger these initiatives over time.

At a news conference Friday, Mr. Obama signaled that he intended to move quickly to address the nation's financial problems, despite any obstacles. "I want to ensure that we hit the ground running on Jan. 20, because we don't have a moment to lose," he stated.

The argument for an aggressive approach in the mold of Franklin D. Roosevelt or Lyndon B. Johnson is that health care, energy and education are all part of systemic economic problems and should be addressed comprehensively. Yet Democrats are discussing a hybrid strategy that would push for a gallant economic program while also encompassing other elements of Mr. Obama's campaign platform.

"I believe it would be important to show fairly early on that change is here," stated Representative Chris Van Hollen of Maryland. "One of the very visible ways to show that would be to pass some of the bills George Bush vetoed."

Along those same lines, the Obama transition team has identified executive orders he can sign in the first hours and days of his presidency to demonstrate action. Among other things, he can reverse a variety of Bush policies, like restrictions on abortion counseling and stem-cell research.

Mr. Obama has acknowledged that the economy will force him to recalibrate his program but insists that he has not backed off his commitments. He said, "We can't afford to wait on moving forward on the key priorities that I identified during the campaign, including clean energy, health care, education and tax relief for middle class families."



## The Talents Entrusted to Our Care

The Talents Entrusted to Our Care is the College's comprehensive campaign and was announced this past April. The campaign focuses on three fundraising areas: Capital, Endowment, and The Muhlenberg Fund. Despite the rough economy, Muhlenberg's capital campaign has progressed to \$92.1 million raised towards its \$105 million goal. There are only nineteen months left to raise the remaining \$12.9 million.

During the Trustee dinner on Oct 30 the College celebrated the contributions of those alumni and friends who have established endowed scholarships for our students, and announced a number of significant new gifts to the Campaign, including six figure commitments from John and Barbara Heffer P'96 for the Hillel expansion, Pete and Eileen Keeler P'12 for student research fellowships, and Jack and Diane Ladley '70 for an endowed scholarship for math majors. Also, two seven-figure commitments: an anonymous challenge gift of \$1 million for the Hillel expansion from a Muhlenberg family and the endowed Joseph and Rita Scheller Chair and Research & Development Fund for the Director of the RJ Fellows Program.



Without generous gift from alumni, parents and friends, the College would not be able to provide students with necessary research equipment.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TALENTS CAMPAIGN WEBSITE

## Record numbers at the polls

Campus voter registration efforts yielded approximately 800 Muhlenberg voters, 542 of whom used the campus shuttle to go to the polls on election day (50 students cast absentee ballots and another 50 took themselves to the polls; student voter turnout was at least 83%). In addition, 54 students served as poll workers. Scores of students and many faculty and staff watched election returns together in the Red Door Café that evening, while devouring vast quantities of pizza and chicken fingers. Kudos to Muhlenberg's College Democrats who brought Senator (and now Vice President-elect) Joe Biden to campus days before the election, and to the College Democrats and College Republicans who collaborated on an effective series of campus signs comparing the positions of the two presidential candidates on issues of importance to students.

Information Courtesy of President of Muhlenberg College, Randy Helm



On election day a record number of voters, including many Muhlenberg students, anxiously waited their turn to vote.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

## Campus Safety Notes

Nov. 3 - Fire Alarm - Steam from a shower set off a fire alarm at 2263 Turner St. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 4 - Medical Transport - A housekeeper became ill while working in the Trexler Pavilion. Campus Police transported housekeeper to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 4 - Dispatch Code - Found Property - A student ID card was found on Liberty St. Card was returned to owner the next day.

Nov. 4 - Dispatch Code - Found Property - A student ID card was found in the East Hall Quad. The ID card was placed in the ID box.

Nov. 4 - Fire Alarm - A fire alarm was set off by cooking on the second floor of Robertson Hall. No fur-

ther incident was reported.

Nov. 4 - Suspicious Activity - Someone sprayed body spray in a hallway. Another student had an allergic reaction and was taken to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 4 - Medical - Sick student in Prosser Hall transported to the hospital by MCEMS.

Nov. 5 - Medical - A student was burned in Seegers Union. Student went to the Health Center and was told to report it to Campus Safety. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 5 - Vandalism - A GPS unit was stolen from a car on 25 St. The drivers side window was smashed. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 5 - Theft - A student reported that money was

stolen from a locker room in the Life Sports Center. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 5 - Dispatch Code - Lost Property - A student reported losing an iPod. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 6 - Medical - A sick student was transported to the hospital from the New Science Building. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 6 - Lost Property - A backpack was lost in Moyer Hall. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 6 - Found Property - A set of student keys was found on the second floor of Moyer Hall. Keys were placed in the evidence closet in Campus Safety.

Nov. 6 - Theft - A student reported that money was taken from a wallet in a

locker room in the Life Sports Center.

Nov. 6 - Medical - A student became sick in the Campus Safety Office in Prosser Hall. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 7 - Noise Complaint - Allentown Police were called to a house on 22 Street in response to a noise complaint. APD issued a disruptive conduct report (DCR). No further incident was reported.

Nov. 7 - Lost Property - An iPod was lost in the Chew Street parking lot. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 8 - Vandalism - A fire extinguisher was broken in the basement of South Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 8 - Found Property - An officer found a duffel bag in the Benfer driveway.

Duffel bag was placed in lost/found.

Nov. 8 - Vandalism - Reporting party called to report vandalism in Seegers Union. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 8 - Allentown Police were called regarding a large party on 22 Street. APD issued a DCR. Owners were referred to Dean's office.

Nov. 9 - Disorderly Conduct - Apparent homosexual remarks incited a fight outside of the Egner Memorial Chapel. When Campus Police arrived, suspects fled the scene. An investigation is ongoing.

Nov. 9 - Forcible Rape - A student reported being sexually assaulted on the first floor of Benfer Hall. The suspect is a student and is known to the victim. Both the Allentown Police Dept and Campus Police are investigating the incident.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"The man who views the world at 50 the same as he did at 20 has wasted 30 years of his life."

- Muhammad Ali

## Showcasing a variety of movement visions

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The Muhlenberg Theatre and Dance Association's dancers are ready to present their original works demonstrating vision and inspiration in *Moving Stories*.

One of the unique aspects of Muhlenberg's Dance Program is this annual dance concert. Each choreographer carries the privilege of having a space to communicate a vision of the world through movement.

This challenge has been met by enthusiastic choreographers who have made a variety of dances for audiences to experience.

According to Artistic Director Charles O. Anderson, *Moving Stories* incorporates "visceral tales that excavate the inner landscapes of the dance makers." Student choreographers have developed these contemporary dance works in collaboration with their peers.

Anderson states, "These stories are not narratives in the traditional sense of verbal or written storytelling, but rather they embody the complicated, illogical and conflicting journeys experiences in the recesses of our minds and hearts."

In their pieces students draw on their experiences in fields from philosophy to neuroscience to create a multi-disciplinary and multi-dimensional performance arts show.

This concert is made up of nine dances choreographed by students and one piece choreographed by Professor Sarah Carlson.

Meghan Meehan's piece, set to Bach is called "*La Malattia del Diavolo*," which translates from Italian into "The Disease of the Devil."

Olivia Wingerath's autobiographical dance is set to a song by Radiohead.

Lauren Naab's piece is derived from content and concepts in her neuroscience and theater double major.

Amanda Ebert and Dana McGowen have both set their pieces to the music of Vitamin String Quartet. Laura Mayerson's piece is called "*Pull Over at the Next Stop for Directions*."

"...powerful, original, moving stories."

Michele Sasso's piece is titled "*Shifting Influential Naiveté*."

Rebecca Haverson's piece closes the concert and is called "*I Say We, Recollect(ive)*."

As the artistic director, Anderson says, "It is always a pleasure to work with your choreographers who are on the cutting-edge of making art and to witness the results of seasoned professionals such as Ms. Carlson working with eager and passionate young dancers.

You are witnessing why our dance

program continues to be nationally recognized for our innovative choreography and passionate performance.

Each artist on the program brings an exemplary liberal arts perspective to their choreography, and their diverse perspectives are shared with us in these powerful, original, moving stories."

This is the largest theatre and dance performance of the school year, presenting student choreography, and is not to be missed. The dancers have worked tirelessly on their routines combining their amazing talent for dance along with the inter-disciplinary thoughts that they bring.

Performances are Thurs. and Fri. at 8 pm and Sat. at 2 pm and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students. *Moving Stories* is presented in the Baker Theatre in the Trexler Pavilion for Theatre and Dance. Tickets are available for all performances. Do not miss this amazing performance!



Dancers in Janelle Sipala's "Fragments" from *Moving Stories* 2007.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW WRIGHT



# Just text it!

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

So you two hooked up over the weekend, and now it's Wednesday. Your phone is in front of you on your desk, your homework is done and you can't seem to get the person off your mind. One question remains on your mind: to text them or not to text them?

You haven't seen them around campus much the past couple days, except in Garden Room earlier this afternoon. You smiled at each other and said quick hellos to each other. Does that mean they like you?

You could spend hours analyzing the conversation you two had.

You could look up body language online in an effort to decipher how they really feel.

You could even try to sit near them in Seeger's Union just to eavesdrop on their conversation and see if you're mentioned.

But there's really only one way to find out, right? No, it's not knocking on their door without warning, it's not asking their

best friend and it's definitely not eavesdropping in Seeger's - believe me.

Text them. You don't have to say anything magnificent or breathtaking.

Simplicity will suffice. Ask how they're doing. Say something witty about the Garden Room. You could even bring up how nice their shirt looked against their skin tone.

What's important, though, is just that you mention you were thinking about them.

Don't be afraid; what is there to lose?

You probably have unlimited text messages anyways, so don't pretend like your bill is at stake. It's just a free text message.

Stop making excuses, text the person for goodness' sake!

There are only a few things that could happen as a result.

Of those things, the sky isn't going to fall, pigs won't fly, and the fat lady isn't going to sing.

What might happen,

though, is that your phone might vibrate. Maybe they will text you back. It's also possible that they won't, but is that really the end of the world?

Even if they don't text back, it's better to know today rather than this weekend.

You can move on to better things, like people that are interested in you.

Don't waste a weekend going after someone who isn't when you could be spending that time meeting new and potentially really cool people.

But, chances are the other person is doing exactly what you are right now; sitting by their phone wondering if they should text you.

If you don't pick up your phone and do something, there's a good possibility they won't do something either.

Potential relationships can dissipate because both people were afraid to make a move on the other person.



It's the worst feeling to find out later that feelings were mutual, and neither of you did anything about it.

Don't miss out because of some dumb butterflies:

By the end of the month, you might even have a boyfriend or girlfriend. Or you could have a good friend. Who knows?

You're in college, getting to know people is part of the job description, not to mention a good way to meet even more people.

Although it can be nerve-racking to put yourself out there, it may be well worth it. In order to gain anything, you have to risk something.

And in this case, it's only a small text message, so go for it.

You could gain everything. You never know what might come of that text and you could be surprised. Don't be afraid to risk a little something.

Virgil once said "Fortune favors the bold," and fortune most certainly favored him.

So take the plunge; pick up your phone and press send.

## AMC Weekend Listings



**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa**  
Fri. 7:00, 8:10, 10:30  
Sat. 7:00, 8:10, 10:30  
Sun. 7:00, 8:10, 10:30

**Changeling**  
Fri. 4:10, 7:05, 10:00  
Sat. 4:10, 7:05, 10:00  
Sun. 4:10, 7:05, 10:00

**Quantum of Solace**  
Fri. 7:30, 9:30, 10:20  
Sat. 7:30, 9:30, 10:20  
Sun. 7:30, 9:30, 10:20

**High School Musical 3: Senior Year**  
Fri. 4:20, 7:10, 9:50  
Sat. 4:20, 7:10, 9:50  
Sun. 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

**Zack and Miri Make A Porno**  
Fri. 4:40, 7:20, 10:05  
Sat. 4:40, 7:20, 10:05  
Sun. 4:40, 7:20, 10:05

**Role Models**  
Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

IF YOU COULD BE ANYWHERE RIGHT THIS SECOND,  
WHERE WOULD YOU GO?



"London."  
- Jen Risener, '12



"Disney World, that'd be pretty sweet."  
- Catherine Schwartz, '11



"In the shower."  
- Lauren Valenti, '12



"At 103 Ocean City."  
- Nick Busillo, '12



"Hug Island."  
- Nat Shire, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

# What kind of woman are you? *Twelfth Night* and a visit from Kate Bornstein

By Samantha Sembler  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

In a Mainstage season filled with "the classics," it follows to wrap up the fall season with Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. Tickets are available now at the box office for Nov. 19-22 at 8 pm and Nov. 23 at 2 pm. It will play in the Studio Theatre, providing an intimate environment for both actors and audience.

What makes Shakespeare so popular, especially in an academic setting, is his skilled integration of themes within a human's life and the potential offered by the vague setting.

Director Beth Schachter, chose to take advantage of the freedom offered by a Shakespearian play. She focuses on identity and gender issues presented within this comedy.

As is typical of Shakespeare's comedies, there is plenty of confusing entanglements of love, mistaken identities and, of course, cross-dressing.

The story follows Viola, a young noblewoman, who chooses to remain anonymous after landing in a new country. She disguises her-

self as a boy, in order to serve the Duke. Viola falls in love with her master, who is in turn in love with the mourning Olivia. But, after Olivia meets Cesario, Viola's alter ego, she finds herself attracted to "him." Viola's disguise poses the question of how masculinity is performed.

Part of the beauty of this play, according to Schachter, is that it, "offers a chance for performing various versions of ourselves." Schachter decided to invite author and performance artist Kate Bornstein to work with the cast and anyone else in the Muhlenberg community who was interested.

Kate Bornstein is a transgender person who became a woman through gender reassignment surgery, but since then has decided to not align with either the male or female gender.

Kate Bornstein is a prominent gender scholar who provokes us to consider the preconceptions associ-

ated with being male or female and how we can overcome these gender rules.

Kate Bornstein's campus visit was made up of several components. An open rehearsal of *Twelfth Night* was held and Kate led a discussion afterwards about the performance of gender within the play.

Kate asked everyone in the auditorium where our society gets our

rules for gender, which in this case seem to be those who are in power.

In her writings Kate has explored the relationship between power, hierarchy and gender.

The discussion continued by asking one of the actresses, "What kind of woman are you playing?" She views gender as a continuum between male and female with many stops along the way.

We wear our gender in different ways depending on the interactions

we engage in. Kate Bornstein hopes to open our eyes to these rules.

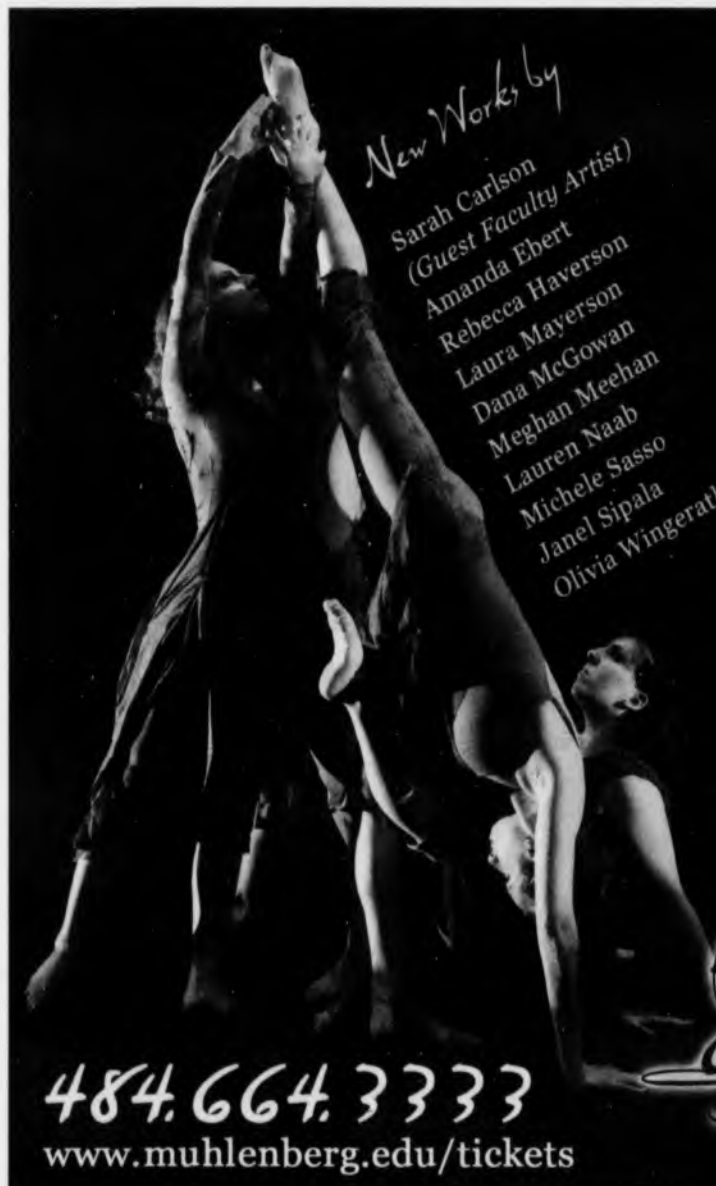
One beauty of theatre is that anything is possible, and Kate lets the actors know that this is their world and they get to call the shots and make the rules themselves.

Kate led a workshop in which she did exercises to help actors strip themselves of gender performance in their bodies. Later that day, she held a salon performance in which she performed sections of her memoir and answered any questions the audience had concerning her life's work.

This was actually Kate's final performance of *Queer and Pleasant Danger* because of the emotional weight it holds for her. Kate had previously visited our school in conjunction with the Center for Ethics series based on finding your identity.

Kate Bornstein's work is inspiring not just for those who question their gender and sexuality, but also their lives. She leaves us with an important message saying, "Do anything it takes to make your life worth living. Anything, anything, anything."

*"Part of the beauty of this play, according to Schachter, is that it, 'offers a chance for performing various versions of ourselves.'"*



New Works by

- Sarah Carlson (Guest Faculty Artist)
- Amanda Ebert
- Rebecca Haverson
- Laura Mayerson
- Dana McGowan
- Meghan Meehan
- Lauren Naab
- Michele Sasso
- Janel Sipala
- Olivia Wingerath

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## This week on Campus

### Thursday, Nov. 13

*Lunch & Learn: Funny, You Don't Look Jewish: Living as a Non-White Jew in Suburban America*

- 11:30 am-12:30 pm in Seegers 111
- A lively and informal discussion with free lunch
- Free admission
- Contact Hillel at x3270 or hillel@muhlenberg.edu for more information

*"Cool Hand Luke" Presented by Phi Kappa Tau*

- 8:00 pm-10:00 pm in Seegers Red Door
- Celebrating the achievements of the late Paul Newman with his Oscar-winning performance about a man who refuses to conform to life in a rural prison
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne at x3657 for more information

### Friday, Nov. 14

*4 Guys, 1 Mike Stand Up Comedy*

- 10:00 pm-11:00 pm on Seegers Red Door
- Hilarious stand up comedy routine
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne at x 3657 for more information

*A Capella Remix*

- 11:00 pm-1:00 am in Seegers Red Door
- Favorite performances by InAccord and the Dynamics
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne at x3657 for more information

### Saturday, Nov. 15

*AG Silver in Concert*

- 10:00 pm-Midnight in Seegers 113
- Musical performance to help raise funds for clean water in Africa
- Free admission (donations are greatly appreciated)
- Contact Leanne at x3657 for more information

### Monday, Nov. 17

*Notables Book Discussion Group*

- 12:00 pm-1:00 pm in Trexler Library's Rare Books Room
- Discussing Eckhart Tolle's *A New Earth*
- Contact Kelly Cannon at x3602 or kcannon@muhlenberg.edu for more information

### Tuesday, Nov. 18

*Ten Thousand Villages*

- 10:00 am-8:00 pm in Seegers 108-110
- Fair Trade Festival featuring works of art by skilled artisans in the developing world
- Profits go to the artisans in developing nations who are underemployed or unemployed
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne at x3657 for more information

### Wednesday, Nov. 19

*Ten Thousand Villages*

- 10:00 am-8:00 pm in Seegers 108-110
- Fair Trade Festival featuring works of art by skilled artisans in the developing world
- Profits go to the artisans in developing nations who are underemployed or unemployed
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne at x3657 for more information

# Lady Mules make a playoff run but fall short in double OT

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Tension was in the air. The Muhlenberg girls

were nervous, scared, unsure of what was going to happen, and most of all, not confident.

Oh, wait ... wrong bench.

The Muhlenberg Lady Mules actually looked ready to go, as they were able to defeat Haverford College 2-1 in the Centennial Conference qualifying playoff round.

Although the Lady Mules came out a little flat at the start of the game, letting up a goal in the sixth minute to Haverford on a kick from the center of the box, they eventually found themselves, and were able to kick it up a notch.

The momentum seemed to change when junior midfielder Jayne Condon deflected a corner kick from junior midfielder Kasey Hacker past the Haverford goalkeeper to tie the game in the 14th minute. They then took the lead in the 38th minute as freshman forward Renne Dessimone kicked a long shot from the right sideline that wound up bouncing over the goalkeeper and just into the net. It gave Muhlenberg a lead they would not relinquish.

Tensions were indeed high, though, as halfway through the first half, on what the Haverford coaches thought was a bad call, the referee walked over to the bench and gave their assistant coach a yellow card and a warning. As he was walking away, a belligerent Haverford fan started taunting the referee, whereupon he turned around and rejected the fan from the game.

From that point on, the Haverford bench was in chaos, and were unable to control their emotions.

This showed just one minute after 'Berg's second goal when on another questionable call, the Haverford coaches went ballistic, and the head coach was given a yellow card of her own. The coaches ironically resembled the Franklin &

Marshall coaches that were warned by the referee in 'Berg's last home game of the regular season.

Through the entire second half of the game, the Lady Mules were clearly in control of the game, playing calm, smart soccer, while Haverford seemed to be, once again, in chaos, simply kicking the ball and hoping for the best. Muhlenberg was able to hold on to their lead for the win, and will now go on to play Johns Hopkins, the 7th ranked team in Division III soccer, and three time defending champions. The game will take place at the Johns Hopkins campus, and the winner will advance to the championship game, played on the same campus.

Freshman Michelle Toher started in goal for the Mules and made one save on two shots on goal, enough to give her team the win. Haverford had two great chances to tie the game late, but failed on two consecutive corner kicks as Muhlenberg was able to knock both balls away in order to advance in these Centennial Conference playoffs.

The Johns Hopkins Blue Jays have been the best Centennial Conference Women's Soccer Team for the past three years. They are three time defending champions, and have advanced to the finals the past four years.

Well, now it is five.

They defeated our beloved Muhlenberg Lady Mules as freshman forward Erica Suter headed in a corner kick just over two minutes in to the second overtime at Johns Hopkins University. Toher stopped six of seven Johns Hopkins shots, while Karen Guskowski stopped all three shots on goal that she faced for the Blue Jays.

Muhlenberg ended their season with an 11-5-4 record, including a 6-3-3 record in the Centennial Conference.

On the positive side of this, however, five members of the Lady Mules' soccer team were

named to the All-Centennial Conference team. Junior Kasey Hacker and freshman Nicolette Miller earned first team honors. Hacker had 17 points this season that included six goals and five assists, while Miller had 16 points that included ten goals and six assists. Miller is just the fourth Mule freshman to reach double digits in goals.

Junior Christina O'Grady and her sister, freshman forward Meghan O'Grady, were named to the second All-CC team, while junior Samantha Hoffman received an honorable mention.

Miller summed up her season for the 'Berg Weekly: "I think I would sum up our season as a success. We really proved to a lot of people how good we were and just ended up on the unfortunate side of the game vs. Hopkins. I think it was obvious to everyone that that game could have easily gone either way and we all played our hearts out so have nothing to be upset about. Next year I think we will only be stronger.. we have learned to play with each other through each of our strengths and weaknesses come back with all of our starters, so I think we are going to be the team to look out for next year. To all the girls on the team, i want to say thanks for making the transition of freshmen year so easy and being great friends and teammates. We always pushed each other to be better. It's been a great year and I cant wait for next season! The game against Kean was definitely a highlight I feel like because although early in the season, it was a great win for our team. We managed to comeback from 2-1 with 7 minutes left to win 4-2. Being a part of that was awesome.. it definitely gave us all confidence for the rest of the season. Being named to the All-CC team was awesome. I really didn't expect such an honor as a freshmen and I want to thank my teammates for helping me achieve that. Without them, it definitely wouldn't have been possible."



Left: 2008 Women Soccer Mules; Right: Junior midfielder Kasey Hacker was also given the honors of All C.C. First Team.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE



# IM Football: Wish prevails

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

After seven weeks of sweat, tears, blood, and man-hugs, the 2008 Intramural Football season has come to an end. In the "game of the year" in the regular season, Team Wish prevailed over the pre-season Vegas Odds-Makers' favorite to win the title, Ramrod. Ramrod, which consisted of mostly former football players, was stunned when Wish defensive lineman, senior Andrew Cipriano, intercepted a screen pass and returned it for the momentum swaying touchdown. Both Team Wish and Team Keith finished their regular season schedules undefeated, and entered the playoffs as the top two seeds.

The first round of the playoffs saw the upset of the year. Offensive Player of the Year, junior Brian Ward, and his Team JORDAN! Beat Ramrod, ending the season for the preseason favorites in the first round. Awaiting Team JORDAN! in the Final Four was undefeated Team Keith. In a hotly contested gridiron affair, Team Keith prevailed and headed for the championship bout. In the second Final Four game, Team Al Carpetto

gave undefeated Team Wish their tightest game of the playoffs, but nonetheless, Team Wish prevailed by 8 to earn their spot in the championship.

So the championship game was set: the undefeated co-regular season champs would square off, winner taking home the coveted Coatesville Classic Cup. Led by the unanimous Playoff Most Valuable Player, Senior Steve Borchard, Team Wish pulled away from previously undefeated Team Keith in a dominating fashion. When the final whistle blew, Team Wish won the Coatesville Classic Cup 42-6. Leading the defensive effort for Team Wish was the Defensive Player of the Year, senior Jason Rattino, a star in the defensive backfield.

Other members of Team Wish's championship roster included seniors Mike Madaio, Frank Summers, Ryan Paskin, Tim Ganter, William Wishart, Brian Fakhoury, Matt Katz, and a few others. Muhlenberg Intramural Sports would like to thank all players and all those who assisted in officiating the games and also the chain gang for the season.

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# Did the NHL ruin hockey for Stefan Legein?

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Quite a character.  
Stefan Legein. One of  
the Mississauga/

Niagara IceDogs' star forwards. He scored 43 goals and 75 points in 64 games with 115 PIM in 2006-2007, and showed what a great player he truly is... or was. Columbus saw this, and picked him 37th overall in the 2007 NHL Entry Draft.

On Tuesday, August 19, 2008, he suddenly shocked the hockey world, by announcing his "retirement" from hockey. Stefan Legein, the 19-year old wonder, "retires," from a sport he is not even paid to play, yet.

So basically, he quit. Stefan Legein, a player who was basically guaranteed millions in his career in the NHL, decided to quit playing the game he loved so much.

Or did he love it?

After he showed up for development camp, Legein gave Columbus "the notice a couple weeks before training camp that he did not want to report." "We got concerned about Stefan's passion and commitment last spring," Scott Howson, Columbus Blue Jackets' GM told me in an interview earlier this month, "When he told us he'd rather go home after he signed with Syracuse."

Legein was a beloved player by everyone in the locker room. He was known as a jokester, a prankster, and any other synonym there is, but not in a bad way. Take a look at the Youtube clip of him interviewing John Tavares.

As you can see, he is a great, lovable guy, that many people like to be around. He is also talented at hockey, which always helps when you are drafted in the National Hockey League.

But now he works in a pizza parlor.

Show of hands, folks, if you had a choice to be an NHL player, or a worker at Pizza Hut, what would you choose?

I thought so.

Legein, though, is not the only player who has done this. Dan Ryder, brother of NHLer Michael Ryder of the Boston Bruins, after scoring five points in his first six American League games with the Quad City Flames, decided to bolt the team and return home to Newfoundland. Ryder has since returned to his AHL team for this 2008-2009 season.

What do NHL GMs know about the Dan Ryder situation?

"Nothing," Flyers' GM Paul Holmgren said.

"Just what I read," Scott Howson said.

"I honestly have no idea," Devils' GM Lou Lamoriello stated.

"Nothing," Blackhawks' GM Dale Tallon claimed.

"While I do acknowledge the fact that it takes a tremendous amount of time and effort to break into the NHL, could you think of a better way to live your life? Instead of sitting at a desk or working 11 hour shifts in a coal mine somewhere, these kids are spending the majority of their lives playing a game that they love" (Anonymous).

Let's take a detour on this magical journey through the minds of these two young players and their decisions. I am going to go on the ride called "Journey to the Center of the NHL" (I own that copyright, Disney). Perhaps we should take a look at what players go through from the time they first lace on skates until they reach the NHL, or fail to reach it, in many cases.

1. You put on skates for the very first time at age two, and as you stumble around the ice, holding your father's or mother's hand, you are officially

starting on the journey to become a hockey player.

2. Your father cuts a hockey stick for you, and as you gradually improve your skills on the frozen pond outside your house, you learn different hockey moves, including how to skate with a puck, and putting the puck inside the net.

3. You join your first hockey team in the squirt level. You eventually move up to pee-wee, then bantam, then midget, and as you go up in levels, your skills in skating and hockey go up as well.

4. You join a junior team as you start to reach your teens, and major junior teams start to scout you out.

5. The major junior draft: whether you are in the OHL, WHL, QMJHL, or USHL, you are drafted into the almost-big leagues. Only one-more step to the pros.

6. You are scouted by the NHL and the ISS, and are (hopefully) eventually drafted into the NHL. You work a little harder, and soon become a full-time NHLer.

Now, this entire list is assuming you do indeed make the NHL when you are eighteen years old.

Among the list of six steps of getting to the NHL, where can something possibly go wrong that would make you want to quit?

I think there are two places it could happen. Either in step three or step six. In step three you are on your first or second hockey team, and as a young child, you may not enjoy something that your parents basically are forcing you to do. So you quit.

In step six, though, you are a grown man, between the ages of 16 and 20. You are old enough to make your own decisions, which almost every player does (Eric Lindros is an exception to this rule: his daddy made decisions for him). What would make a man so close to reaching a dream want to quit what he loves if it is not an injury?

Well, in my mind, it has to be the loss of love of the game. What makes someone lose their love of a game they've played since they could first walk? Perhaps a few things: pressure, agents, parents, fans, and most of all, the NHL.

The NHL is the dream of every hockey player out there. But when you get to the NHL, it is no longer fun hockey, no matter what anyone says. When you are making millions of dollars, it is no longer fun. It is serious, hard work. We all started playing hockey and continued to play hockey because it is fun. Now don't get me wrong, the players all love the game. No one plays in the NHL simply because they make a lot of money. They play because they love to play hockey.

But no one loves every part of the game. They can't possibly love every part of the NHL. There is practice, film, gym sessions, mandatory meetings, workouts, trips, bus rides, plane rides, and then, of course, the games.

I am on a college hockey team, and the only things I enjoy in that group are practice, games, and sometimes film and team meetings. Even if someone loves most of those, there is always some part of it that they don't enjoy.

There was recently a cover story in The Hockey News about Patrick Kane and his childhood. It premiered on September 2, 2008, and discussed the cost of raising a hockey player, as far as expenses go. With schools, programs, equipment, and trips, Patrick Kane's parents estimated the total cost of raising Pat Kane the hockey player to be \$143,700.

True, Kane made that much in just a quarter of a year, but how many players who put that much

time and money into hockey actually make it to the NHL?

People put so much into the game, yet when someone walks away after putting so much time, money, effort, and blood (literally) into the game, there has to be a major reason behind it; it cannot just be, "Well, the game is no longer fun for me." No one would buy that, and for anyone that does buy it, I commend you for being so easily convinced.

The NHL begins scouting players when they are still in their low teens. They begin heavily scouting players when they are in major junior, from ages 16-20. The pressures put on these players from their mid-teens until they either do or do not reach the NHL are enormous.

A player is expected to perform well, and if he does not, well, he is basically shunned. Look at Steven Stamkos. He dominated the OHL while he was a member of the Sarnia Sting, went first overall, was expected to dominate the NHL along with Crosby, Ovechkin, and others, yet he is struggling to stay in the NHL lineup.

That may be because of pressure, or inability to adjust to the faster game, or coaching, or line combination, or whatever. But the bottom line is, when you are coming in to the NHL as an 18-year old and expected to put up upwards of fifty points per year, somewhere along the line, you are most likely going to fail and succumb to the pressure.

Now, I am not saying the NHL should stop scouting players and expect them to be great. They should absolutely be expecting the best out of every single player that comes into their league. Why? Because it is the best hockey league in the world, without argument. If they lowered the expectations on the kids coming in to pro hockey, what would that do? It would tell them it is okay to be mediocre and be in the NHL, and while that sometimes works for players (cough...Sean Avery...cough), it usually will not. Remember that other league, the KHL? What would it tell them if we started to allow our players to just play well when they felt like it, and didn't put high hopes on their shoulders?

But on the other side, why should we be putting so much pressure on these kids? Everyone started to play the game because it was fun. Key word: was. As the aforementioned paragraphs stated, it is no longer fun when you are being paid millions, or expecting to become a million dollar player. Should it be fun?

I asked some general managers about the effect the NHL has on these players, and here were some responses:

"I don't think it's the NHL, no." -Scott Howson

"I don't think the NHL puts pressure on anybody. I think that pressure comes from within." - Lou Lamoriello "Hockey players are no different than anybody else," Paul Holmgren stated, "Everybody has their ups and downs."

"I don't think it has anything to do with the league, I think it's just part of the business." -Dale Tallon

I will leave you with a few questions to think about: Is the NHL putting too much pressure on their young prospects? Why do you think Stefan Legein quit the game he supposedly loved so much? Lastly, what does this all mean for the game, the players, and more importantly, the fans? Is this going to become a pattern, a vicious circle, if you will, in which the NHL just continuously ruins the game?

I sure hope not.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Mules capture 2nd straight Centennial Conference crown

By Tim Murray

WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

regular season game for 16 seniors, but with a win the Mules would claim their second straight outright Centennial Conference title. Ursinus (3-6, 2-5) entered the game trying to play the role of spoiler, but the

Mules would have none of that. Muhlenberg jumped on the Bears from the start and never looked back. The Mules' offense amassed for 561 total yards and the defense did not allow any points (Ursinus' only points came on a kickoff returned for a touchdown in the 4th quarter). The total domination from start to finish by Muhlenberg led to an easy 45-8 win.

The Mules received the opening kickoff but missed on a long field goal attempt on their opening drive. But the defense was ready to make some noise. On Ursinus' second play from scrimmage, Justin Decristofaro threw an interception to senior linebacker Matt Rathbun, which he took 29 yards to the house to give the Mules an early 7-0 lead. Later in the first, senior running back John DeLuca proved that he could not only run but throw as well when he connected with junior wide receiver Phil Cresta on a 65 yard touchdown pass to give Muhlenberg a 14-0 lead after the first quarter. DeLuca would add another touchdown, this time on the ground, in the 2nd and sophomore kicker Michael Katz nailed a 37-yard field goal as time expired in the first half to give the Mules a very comfortable 24-0 lead heading into the locker rooms.

The second half seemed to be the same story as Muhlenberg continued their domination. The Mules' first drive of the half started on their own 14 yard line but that did not change Coach Donnelly's plan of attack. He called DeLuca's number each play on this drive, and 12 plays

and 86 yards later the Mules led 31-0. DeLuca would add another touchdown in the 4th along with a touchdown pass from senior quarterback Eric Santagato to senior wide receiver Edward DeRisi. DeRisi had a career day with 6 catches for 113 yards and a touchdown. DeLuca was honored as Centennial Conference Offensive Player of the Week for the second time this year as he accounted for 267 total yards (202 rushing and 65 passing) and 4 touchdowns (3 rushing and 1 passing). DeLuca only needs 78 rushing yards this weekend to have the most rushing yards in a season and 255 yards to break the all-time rushing record. Both of the records are held by Matt Bernardo who graduated in 2002. Katz also set the school record for most consecutive extra points made, which now stands at 42.

The Mules' 16 seniors (#2 Brandon Doyle, #7 Eric Santagato, #9 Joe Caporoso, #10 Dave Mazzola, #11 Jim Jeffers, #16 Edward DeRisi, #20 Mike Bialko, #26 Erik Snyder, #27 Matt Rathbun, #32 John DeLuca, #50 James Corbett, #51 Steve Halupka, #61 Rob Mulligan, #62 Mike Gawel, #64 Mike Nolan, #92 William Moates) hope that this was not their last home game as the Mules, who are currently ranked #3 in the AFCA poll and #6 in the d3football.com poll, hope to host a couple of NCAA playoff games.

However, standing in the way of that is Moravian (7-2, 5-2). Even though the Mules have the Conference title won and clinched an automatic berth the NCAA Tournament, a win would give them a much higher seed in the playoffs. The Mules defeated their arch-rival 35-7 last year but the Greyhounds would like nothing more than to spoil the Mules' shot at perfection. The game kicks off at 1 p.m. at Moravian College. If you cannot make it to the game, make sure to tune in to the game on 91.7 WMUH for live play-by-play action.



The Mules captured another C.C. Championship with their impressive win over the Bears.

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# W E E K L Y



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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 10

Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008

## Campus hosts Ten Thousand Villages: Largest festival in the country

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

For the past five years, the College has hosted to the Ten Thousand Villages Fair Trade Festival Sale. The festival is planned and executed by students in Marketing for Not for Profits, a Business course here at the College taught by Ms. Gail Eisenberg.

The class of nine students has spent the semester gaining hands-on experience in marketing skills preparing for the Ten Thousand Villages Festival. Caitlin Pawson '09 was drawn to the class due to her interest in working for a non-profit organization, but said that the experience that the class has given her can apply to more than just non-profits. "These are all skills we can use after graduation," she said of the work that she and her classmates did in preparation for the festival.

Ms. Eisenberg's students, along with volunteering students from Phi Sigma Sigma, Delta Tau Delta, and the College Football Team, spent over five hours setting up for the festival on Nov. 17, the day before the sale began. It was an all day event over the course of its two days on campus, Nov. 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., especially for those students helping during the event; the Marketing class students each put in between ten and fifteen hours working the sale over the course of the two days, said Pawson.

Ten Thousand Villages is a Fair Trade

Organization, one of the oldest and largest in the world, and was founded in 1946. It works with artisan groups in over thirty different countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America. They are currently working with over 136 of these groups, and strive to sustain them through fair payment in exchange for mass productions of their work.

Erica Wojcik, who works in Purchasing for Ten Thousand Villages, explained the goals of the organization. "Part of our mission is to sustain the [artisan] groups, not simply to buy from them once," she explained, saying that they aim to increase purchasing from each of their regular artisan groups from year to year in order to aid them in creating a future. In doing so, the organization creates long-term relationships with artisans around the world, with purchasing directors traveling to each of these countries to analyze the artisans' need and to work with them on how to improve their working conditions and quality of life.



This display of jewelry and handbags were among the handmade items for sale present at the festival.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

Ten Thousand Villages also pays their contributing artisans a cash advance of fifty percent in order to help them in the completion of their work. They also work with the artisans on how to work their pieces into the organization's existing collections by providing trend and color samples.

The festival took place in three Seeger's rooms, with items for sale that ranged from stone sculptures from Kenya to naturally scent- SEE FAIR TRADE | PAGE 6

## Student Government votes on first round of budgets

By Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

On Thurs. Nov. 13, Student Government held the first day of budget approval meetings. The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Barrie Schessler '10, presented requests from four clubs and college organizations for the rest of Government to approve. The first request to be made was from the Lutheran Student Movement for \$1,623.44 to fund their Alternative Spring Break trip to Washington D.C. After the motion was discussed, it was decided to add \$19.62

for each person on the trip, bringing the total to \$1,800.02. Both motions passed and the Lutheran Student Movement was granted their request.

The second request was for \$876.21 from Habitat for Humanity to fund their Alternative Spring Break trip to North Carolina. Again, after discussion, a motion was brought up to add more money and the new total requested was \$970.20. Both motions were passed. Comunidad Latina requested \$3,171.96 for their Alternative Spring Break trip to Juarez, Mexico. Their request was amended to only

allocate \$2,643.67 and that was how much Comudiad Latina received. The final request came from Hillel. Hillel's request was for \$1,550.39 to purchase paper goods. Their request was passed without any amendments being made.

After budgets were voted on, Student Government moved to Committee reports. Two committees made major changes spawning a great deal of discussion. First, the Communication and Programming Committee, chaired by Executive Secretary Matthew Pearson '09, moved to have each week's Student Government Minutes to be e-mailed

to the Student Body. The Minutes are a summary of the Student Government meetings and are kept by the Recording Secretary, Samantha Busa '11. (As of this meeting, the Minutes were only provided by e-mail to Student Government members.) This request spawned much debate and a number of amendment motions. In opposition to the motion, a high-ranking member of Student Government said, "I am very much against this because we are starting an e-mail

SEE COUNCIL | PAGE 5



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

# Drunk Driving

## Why we are thankful

Ahh, Thanksgiving (contented sigh). A time to go home, eat, relax, and if you're like us, work like madmen.

And of course, it is a time to give thanks. This year, the executive board would like to thank our extremely supportive and efficient staff. Over the years, writers, editors, and photographers have come and gone, but we have to say that our current staff is without a doubt one of the most dedicated and intelligent that any of the seniors have worked with.

Just minutes ago, an editor panicked because we hit the 8:00 mark. We are spoiled by the quality of our staff, and have become accustomed to turning off the office lights at 10:00 p.m. We have heard horror stories of past production nights carrying into the wee hours of the morning, but have not, thankfully, experienced any all-nighters yet (knock on wood).

We are fortunate to work with a complete staff, for once. We actually have a copy editor to catch every typo (only kidding), multiple editors per section, and committed writers. It is a relief not playing the part of writer, photographer, and editor, all wrapped up in one.

Equally important is the camaraderie. Our staff gets along almost strangely well, and production nights are anything but dull. In our tiny blue office that always faintly smells of Chinese food, we have recently reinstated the "quote wall," which features some of the most brilliant statements ever uttered by the editors. For example: "Well I didn't make up anything I put in *here*." Another gem...courtesy of sleep deprivation: "I'd visited my older brother while he was here studying at MuhlenEvan S. Jaffeeberg, so I knew the territory."

We routinely and oh-so-subtly change each other's Facebook pages, and spend maybe more time than we should joking around and pretending to edit. But this is not to say that we do not get the job done. We just have a little fun along the way.

We can't believe we are wrapping up one of the final issues of the semester. We are so thankful for the now-familiar faces in The Weekly office we see every Tuesday from 3:00-10:00 p.m. Enjoy your time with your family, and safe travels. But above all, eat, sleep, and gear up for finals! Ugh.


Drunk driving is a serious issue facing college students in America today. We have made up this fact sheet to get some information out to the Muhlenberg community about driving while under the influence. It is especially important because most of the college student population is from out-of-state where laws may be slightly different. We hope that after reading these facts, you will plan to have a designated driver or think twice before getting behind the wheel after drinking alcohol.

### DID YOU KNOW...

- PA's legal limit of blood alcohol content is .08%.
- If under 21, you can be arrested if your blood alcohol level is .02% or higher.
- If arrested for a DUI, you must attend court.
- If convicted for a first time offense you will be evaluated to determine if you have a substance abuse problem
- Must complete 150 hours of community service
- You must attend Alcohol Highway Safety School
- You may lose your driver's license for up to one year
- You may spend between forty eight hours and six months in jail
- You must pay all expenses yourself, and fees can range from \$300-\$5,000
- Car insurance can increase up to \$5,000 per year or higher
- Depending on the state, a DUI could remain on your record permanently
- You must notify potential employers of a DUI arrest when applying for a job
- Muhlenberg immediately turns students over to APD when caught driving impaired
- in 2006, 13,470 fatalities resulted from an alcohol impaired driver. This is the equivalent of one fatality every 39 minutes due to a drunk driver.

Remember, when driving under the influence, you have the potential to take the life of someone's child, parent or best friend. You may even take the life of someone you love. Is it worth the risk?

By: Lauren Conicella, Marguerite Farrell, Maggie Flynn, Sarah Golden and Angie Greybill (Organizational Behavior)



Look what's blowing on campus?

## Spring '09



## Ready to mix things up?

Spring '09

## The polarization of music

By Steve Motschwiler  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

As a preface, I do not want to insult the music listening experience someone may encounter from an iPod but rather critique

the effects that iPods have on our campus culture and on our culture as youth. I want to get across is that the overuse of iPods in our culture has created a polarization of music tastes. Polarization being defined as the division of opinion and separation to extreme levels.

Of the sample of people I have interviewed for this article, the question, "what is your favorite type of music?" resulted in a singular style of music ranging from heavy metal to rap. The reason I bring this up is merely to point out that it is not unusual to assign a favorite kind of music to yourself. I personally am not innocent and associate myself with the kids who enjoy rock music. But now with the popularization of iPods and personal mp3 players, we students have it in our power to control all the music we listen to.

The effects of this polarization can be seen if you look into many dorm doubles and see two roommates with headphones on listening to different styles of music. I am not implying every iPod listener is completely ignorant of different kinds of music, but am implying that when the owner of the iPod has exclusive control over what is put into his iPod, and uses his iPod as a primary source of music, he or she is limiting the influx of new music.

To increase the polarization that seems inevitable; recently the polarization of the internet music player called Pandora Radio has made listening to "your kind of music" much easier. This web site, as my roommate puts it, "takes the songs that you listen to and finds songs that sound similar."

One may ask "what is the problem with that? I listen to only music I like." And the answer to this question is we are slowly losing the social aspect on which music has its roots. Back in the earliest reaches of history, music was used as a way for people to get together. But currently music is becoming more and more a personal choice. We are losing the culture and social undertones in which music was often meant to be made with.

So finally I ask my fellow classmates to put on the radio, surf the channels, find something you like or try something new. I suggest 91.7 WМУH, our college radio station. It plays music all the time of all kinds of styles. You might even find someone you know being the DJ.

## The long journey home

By Ben Levine  
LIFE EDITOR

Vacation can be a very hard time for Muhlenberg students. No, this is not a rant about how ridiculous it is that we get home-

work over vacation. The length of our vacation can be a blight on the already stressful lives of a student. Some students do not get out of class until Wednesday evening, the day before Thanksgiving. Our last vacation started on the day of the first night of Yom Kippur. Some with long drive-times missed temple and/or other religious services. Missing a major religious holiday is more serious than the inconvenience of traveling the day before Thanksgiving but that doesn't make the situation any less obnoxious.

I live in Boston. It could take upwards of seven hours to get home if my bus hits traffic. Drive times vary for everyone depending on your luck with traffic or how fast you drive when there is no traffic, but it is undeniable that there has to be a change.

About the drive, one thing is certain: a playlist is necessary. If you do not have an MP3 player, I don't know what to tell you. Buy War and Peace, see how many different states' license plates you see, listen to your stomach growl because nobody else on the bus wants to stop, or you could just do what I do and make faces at other motorists. If all else fails, you could take a crack at your homework. But, that is only if you do not want to do it during halftime of the Thanksgiving football game or under the Thanksgiving-table. Because of the length of the drive, all vacations are cut pretty short. Two out of the five days of my vacation are spent traveling. That means that probably around ten percent of a Bostonian's vacation is spent traveling.

Most professors are very accommodating and will allow the student to skip the class, which is exponentially helpful. True, the student could leave later in the day. If someone takes a bus, however, the time is not necessarily flexible. Even if you don't take a bus, you will end up missing a class if you want to get home by dinner. Most likely, you will be missing something that will hurt your GPA in the long run. Not to mention the amount of money that you pay for each class that is wasted if you don't attend the class. Professors have even expressed displeasure with the schedule. Believe it or not, professors do have lives outside of the Muhlenberg campus.

A vacation is supposed to be a time of relaxation. The present system makes an unnecessarily stressful situation for all, but makes it especially hard for those with long drive-times.

## Online vs. reality

By Sara Beitman & Rachel Majkszak  
OP/ED AND ASST. OP/ED EDITORS

We just read an article about a British couple that ended three years of wedded bliss after the wife Amy caught her husband David cheating on her. This may not sound out of the ordinary, but consider this: "David" the avatar was "cheating" on Amy with a fellow avatar - a prostitute. This relationship was made possible due to the technological wonder known as Second Life. Second Life is an Internet virtual world where users can become the humans they are not capable of being in real life. It allows them to create a new identity, have jobs, and use real money to purchase the finest things money can buy online. They make new friends, forge relationships, participate in group activities, travel throughout the virtual world, trade virtual property, and literally live.

When Amy walked in on her husband's avatar "having sex" with an animated woman, she said, "I went mad - I was so hurt. I just couldn't believe what he'd done. It's cheating as far as I'm concerned. He never did anything in real life, but I had my suspicions about what he was doing in Second Life." Amy and David, who met in an online chat room in 2003, are separated in real life and in Second Life. Amy is now in a relationship with a man she met while playing the online game World of Warcraft.

What is our world coming to when our "world" is behind a computer screen? Our society has blurred the boundaries between the online world and the real world. We have become so distanced from the real world that a couple is breaking up over something in his imaginary dream world. If everyone took everything seriously that we secretly want to do, but would never actually do in real life, the world would be chaos. People play Second Life to fulfill actions they would never do in real life.

We think the moral of the story is that we need a break from online obsession. Are we sacrificing our real life relationships due to "mistakes" we make online? Has the world of Facebook, E-Harmony, Second Life, text messaging, and other technological advances made us less capable of dealing with situations that require social interaction? Maybe we should try a little harder to distance ourselves from our online lives - and enjoy living the life we have in reality.

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Serving The Muhlenberg Community Since 1883

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Opinions expressed in the OP/ED section of this newspaper are solely those of the author. *The Weekly* reserves the right to edit all pieces for grammatical, spacing and legal purposes. The Editor-in-Chief has final jurisdiction on whether a Letter to the Editor or article is printed. Deadline for submission is Sunday proceeding publication by 7:00 p.m.

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# Shakeup within the Republican ranks

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

The 2008 election has proven that it will make a permanent mark in U.S. history. America elected its first African American president, voter turnout was one of the highest in history, and Democrats had significant gains in both houses of Congress. Democrats picked up about twenty seats in the House and about four in the Senate, but the Senate races in Alaska, Minnesota, and Georgia have not yet been determined. After these losses throughout the U.S., the Republican Party needs to regroup and make some changes.

Since the conclusion of the election there has been talk of change within the Republican National Committee. Former Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, Michael Steele, has announced that he is a candidate for the Chairmanship of the RNC. Steele is consistently noted as a rising star within the Republican party.

In 2000, Steele was elected chairman of the Maryland Republican Party; in this role he was the first African American to be chairman of any state Republican Party. As Lt. Governor, Steele was the highest ranking African American Republican elected to office. When his term ended, he decided to run for the U.S. Senate. Lt. Gov. Steele ran in the 2006 Election for the open seat being vacated by Sen. Paul Sarbanes. Steele was not successful; he lost to Rep. Ben Cardin. Steele moved onto becoming the Chairman of GOPAC, an influential political action committee that works with Republican office seekers.

Michael Steele has been a long time activist in politics and he would bring an improved set of ideals to guide the GOP to victory in 2010.

Aside from the RNC, there are heated battles brewing within Republican leadership circles in the House. Many House Republicans want new leaders with a realistic strategy to win back a majority in 2010. House Republican leader, John Boehner, is being challenged by Rep. Dan Lungren. This race for minority leader is weighed heavily in favor of Rep. Boehner. Lungren's bid is expected to fall short on votes within the Republican Conference, partially due to the fact that he waited ten days after the election to announce his candidacy whereas Boehner immediately asked for members' support.

Representative Roy Blunt, the current Republican whip, has voluntarily stepped down making way for Rep. Eric Cantor to fill the position. Cantor is regarded as a rising young star in the House GOP Conference. Cantor currently serves as the Chief Deputy Whip. Adam Putnam, Chairman of the House Republican Conference, also decided to step down one day after the election. The Chairman of the Conference is the third ranking position in the leadership. Rep. Mike Pence, a staunch conservative in the House, has announced his intention to succeed Putnam.

Congressman Tom Cole, the current Chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), faces a tough race against Rep. Pete Sessions. The NRCC is in charge of overseeing the individual Republican races for the House. Rep. Cole has fallen under much criticism as a result of the twenty seat gain by the

Democrats. Sessions is promising to make changes to the NRCC's strategy which will lead to Republican pick ups in the upcoming 2010 election.

The Republican Party needs to reorganize and develop a forward moving plan. The party must communicate its message of limited government, free market, low taxes, strong national defense, energy independence, and morality. The establishment of a comprehensive conservative reform platform, similar to the 1994 Contract With America, could help to revive the GOP. Republicans in the national, state, and local levels of government should not undermine or insult the new president, but they should offer constructive criticism and question his initiatives.

It is necessary for Republicans to serve as a check to the president. Despite the overwhelming Democrat victory, there is a chance for a Republican retake of the White House and Congress.

In the famous 1992 Election, Bill Clinton won the Presidency over the incumbent George H.W. Bush. Clinton was a young, reform oriented Governor of Arkansas. The 1992 Election cycle provided a Democrat majority over Republicans in the House of 258 to 176 and in the Senate 56 to 44. Two years later, as a result of the Republican Revolution of 1994, the Republican Party gained 54 seats in the House and 8 seats in the Senate. The balance of power in Washington quickly shifted back to the Republicans. The GOP has an uphill battle, but it can pick itself back up and regain the American public's trust.

## Christmas "Spirit"

By Kelly Frazee and Jillian Bevacqua  
NEWS AND ASST. NEWS EDITORS

This past weekend a friend suggested that we start celebrating Christmas forty days early. His excitement about participating in overly-commercialized "Christmas traditions" made us look forward to the holiday but we also couldn't help but wonder how traditions such as drinking hot chocolate and dancing to non-secular seasonal music came to be associated with a Holy Christian holiday in the first place.

Growing up Christian we knew the stories from Sunday School yet at the same time we always looked forward to Santa sliding down the chimney and stuffing our stockings. The difference; however, between us and our friends who were counting down for Christmas just for the presents that they knew would be under the tree on Christmas morning remains today as can be seen through the overwhelming commercialization of the holiday both in stores and the main-stream media.

First off, let's clarify that Jesus was born on Christmas, died on Good Friday and rose again on Easter. Why? Well, last year an acquaintance asked me if Jesus died on Christmas, was born on "Black Friday" and rose again on Easter. He's not the only one who gets these holidays mixed-up. With the overwhelming amount of commercialized Christmas paraphernalia, like giant plastic Santas and light-up Rudolphs that have nothing to with the story and significance of Jesus' birth, people are bound to be confused.

We feel that as adults we should be able to, at the very least, understand the real meaning behind Christmas and why we get gifts on Dec. 25. After all, it's called Christmas, not X-mas and certainly not Saint Nick's Day. A visit to the Lehigh Valley Mall a mere few days after Halloween with make you think that tomorrow is Christmas as you shop among halls that are already decked with holly. Furthermore, starting to "celebrate" Christmas so early does even greater damage in taking away from the true meaning of the holiday.

If you ask a Jewish child what the meaning of Hanukkah is, they will tell you the true meaning of it and the same would go for Kwanza. Yet if a Christian child is asked why they celebrate Christmas there is a good chance that their answer will revolve around Santa as opposed to Jesus' birth; and this has become only more likely to happen with the promotion of this commercialized version of Christmas in the malls and the media.

For the future of Christmas and for our own children, we can only hope that religion will become prominent in how Christmas is perceived. While we will always enjoy a hot cup of hot chocolate on a cold winter day, it will never replace the real meaning of the holiday.

Deadline is December 5

Seniors

Enjoy Thanksgiving Break...

...and remember to talk about "Reality MC" with your family!

Make plans to attend "Reality MC" -

A SENIORS ONLY three day weekend from January 9th-11th.

Be with friends while developing

- Personal
- Financial
- Life Management Skills!

Here's an idea of what the weekend will look like:

- The Cooking Essentials
- Networking
- Getting Your Apartment
- The Least You Need to Know About Taxes
- ALSO! Housing and Some Meals are included in the \$75 fee!

Check out [www.muhlenberg.edu/sye](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/sye) for the full "Reality MC" Weekend Line-Up!

Download the Registration Form at [www.muhlenberg.edu/sye](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/sye) & Mail or Hand Deliver to the Provost's Office



**COUNCIL | FROM PAGE 1**

going out once a month. I think that will cover the basis for getting out the word of what we are doing. Furthermore, no one is going to want to read through the Minutes."

In support of the motion a non-Student Government member said, "This is a start to get Council in touch. This organization needs to change more than its name and this is their chance." A Representative and supporter of the motion cited that "Despite the fact that we are starting the website, we need as much transparency as possible." This debate went on for a considerable amount of time; seemingly everyone had their own opinion on the matter.

A Representative motioned to amend the preceding motion to include that the previous four Minutes be attached to the new monthly newsletter. This sparked another debate. "If we don't believe that students will read each week's Minutes, what makes us think that they will read the last four in a row?" said someone opposed to the amendment of the motion. A vast majority of people present opposed the amendment and the motion to append the previous four Minutes to the new weekly newsletter was voted down.

Another Representative motioned to amend the main motion to add the Minutes to the 'Berg Bulletin every Friday. In addition, yet another Representative added that the amendment include that an e-mail be sent out asking students if they would like to receive each week's

newsletter approved Minutes. Both amendments passed and Representative Jason LaMarca '09 motioned that Student Government vote on the main motion by roll call. A roll call vote is where the Recording Secretary calls out each Student Government members' name and they vote "yay," "nay" or "abstain." The vote showed that the motion nearly passed unanimously. Now, the Minutes will be attached to the Friday addition of the 'Berg Bulletin and an email will be sent out asking students if they want to receive the Minutes.

*"Two committees made major changes spawning a great deal of discussion."*

Only one member, Representative Ian Costello '09, voted "nay." When asked why he voted against the motion, Costello said, "I voted against asking students if they wanted to receive the Minutes because I believe that if you give people a choice, they may not like the idea at first but might want to go back and have the Minutes delivered to them. This doesn't allow that to happen, whereas, if we would just send them to everyone, they can choose to read it at anytime."

The other committee to spend a lot of time on their report was the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee went over revisions to the Muhlenberg College Student Council Finance Manual. A number of changes were made to the manual and *The Weekly* will write in detail about them as soon as we receive further information.

After committee reports, Government moved to the "New Business" portion of the meeting.

Representative Jonathan Falk '10 moved to adopt a resolution to make all doors on the College campus red. He noted that while most doors are painted red, some entrances, such as Trumbower, are not. An amendment was made to the resolution, changing the resolution to read, "Resolved, each exterior door, owned by the college, throughout campus shall be painted red." Both the amendment and resolution passed.

Finally, after all announcements, Representative Costello addressed Government one last time. He posed the question to Government members, "Why are you here?" Then he added, "As we transition into this new Student Government, I expect that we transition ourselves, both as an organization and as individuals, into a body who is known for its selfless service, its honorable integrity and its duty bound loyalty to those who we serve, the student body." With that, the meeting adjourned.

*"Now, the minutes will be attached to the Friday edition of the 'Berg Bulletin."*

Student Government would like to inform the Student Body that Mon. Nov. 24 marks the debut of the new Muhlenberg College Student Government. A kickoff event will be held all day in the Seegers Union lobby. There, students will have a chance to "meet and greet" their representatives.

Furthermore, Student Government would like to advise everyone that the Student Government meeting for Nov. 20 has been moved to the Miller Forum. All are welcome to attend as more budgets will be brought before Student Government.

# BOOM goes to Philadelphia



Members of the 'Berg Organization of Musicians (BOOM) traveled Friday to attend a concert by the Philadelphia Orchestra, in the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts' Verizon Hall. Members received discount tickets through BOOM for the concert, which featured Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 and Wagner's opera Die Meistersinger von N7rnberg. In the past, BOOM has traveled to music events at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, Peabody Music Academy in Baltimore, and numerous concerts in Lehigh Valley.

Those interested in future BOOM events can contact the group at [bergboom@gmail.com](mailto:bergboom@gmail.com)



Information and Pictures Courtesy of BOOM



**FAIR TRADE | FROM PAGE 1**

ed soaps handmade in Southern India. Each of these items was on display with an accompanying picture of the artist and description of the process behind its creation. Every item was labeled with its country of origin on the price tag, and purchasers were able to learn more information about many of the artists through pamphlets that were provided at the student-run registers.




It offered an array of home décor and gifts, ranging from ceramic and textile creations to woven baskets, picture frames made from recycled paper, and holiday ornaments crafted out of real eggshells. The broad display of handcrafted jewelry, musical instruments, and wooden puzzle boxes came to the College at a perfect time, encouraging holiday shopping. The holiday feeling became even more inspired as snow began to fall during the festival's first day on campus.

Much more information about the artisans behind these inspired works of art can be found on the Ten Thousand Villages website, as well as at their retail stores throughout the United States and Canada. There are over one hundred stores in the U.S., twelve locations in Pennsylvania alone, and

more continue to open each year. In addition to their stores, Ten Thousand Villages hosts numerous college sales similar to the one held here on campus, but the College is proud to host the largest on-campus sale that the organization has ever had at a college or university across the country.

The College raised over twenty-eight thousand dollars in last year's two day sale, which makes its goal of surpassing thirty thousand this year completely within reach. Over the past five years, the College has contributed over ninety thousand dollars to the Ten Thousand Villages organization through its annual festival sale. Advertising for the festival expanded beyond the College bubble to the surrounding community and inspired a strong turnout; there was a line of students and Allentown residents waiting in Seeger's Union when the festival began at 10 a.m. on Nov 18.

The Marketing course also asked shoppers to answer a few exit poll questions about their perceptions of the festival, with the goal of making it an even bigger success in the years to come. The College looks forward to additional festivals and is proud to contribute to such an honorable Fair Trade Organization.

<b>Weekend Weather</b>		
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
		
<b>Mostly Sunny</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>
<b>High: 38</b> <b>Low: 22</b>	<b>High: 38</b> <b>Low: 29</b>	<b>High: 44</b> <b>Low: 30</b>

# Winter Break

## College Housing is Closing!

All college owned and leased houses, apartments and residence halls will be closing on the following date and time:



**For ALL Students**  
Sunday December 14, 2008 at 10AM

Requests to stay over break are due by December 1st and will be approved by the 3rd. Forms can be found online at: [www.muhlenberg.edu/mgt/resserv](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/mgt/resserv). All students must leave no more than 24 hours after their last final!

If you have questions call the Office of Residential Services at X3180

**Happy Holidays!**

## OFF CAMPUS

### *Colleges and universities disagree over state teacher training*

Officials at some Pennsylvania colleges and universities say their authority to shape their education curriculum is being undermined by changes that the state wants to make mandatory for the certification process of elementary and middle-school teachers.

Schools are saying the new guidelines that the state wants to enforce are too restrictive. On Thursday at a House Education Committee hearing, college representatives expressed concern that the new guidelines for the state's 93 schools with teacher-preparation programs will place burdensome credit requirements on education majors and may discourage students from pursuing degrees in education.

"As new demands are placed on institutions to better prepare teachers, the response to the demands cannot be to simply add credits to candidates' programs," said president of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Kathleen Ruthkosky.

The state Education Department is replacing the current elementary education certificate for teachers of grades K-6 with two new certificates. They are also requiring all education students to take courses in special education and in teaching english learners. In addition, all special education certification students will be required to be certified to teach in regular classrooms.

Because of these new standards, liberal arts colleges worry that by increasing the number of required education courses, the guidelines will weaken their mission of broadly educating students in multiple subjects.

Deputy secretary of the Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education, Kathleen Shaw, said that while the guidelines define more clearly what teachers should know and be able to do, they should leave specific curriculum decisions to the schools.

### *Tsunami warning lifted after earthquake hit eastern Indonesia*

A powerful earthquake struck the coast off eastern Indonesia early Monday, briefly generating tsunami warnings for coastlines within 600 miles of the epicenter.

There were no immediate reports of serious damage or injuries but thousands of people in nearby coastal towns fled homes, hotels and hospitals in panic.

The U.S. Geological Survey put the earthquake's magnitude at 7.5 and said that it struck 54 miles from Gorontalo, the nearest city, located on Sulawesi Island. It was centered 13 miles beneath the sea and was followed by two strong aftershocks.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said the tremble had the potential to generate a destructive tsunami along coasts within 600 miles. Yet even after local officials lifted the tsunami alert, frightened Sulawesi residents were refusing to return to their homes.

Gusnar, the deputy governor of Gorontalo province, told el-Shinta radio he had been in touch with district chiefs and there were "no reports of serious injuries or significant damage." Robert Bano, a Gorontalo resident, said the massive earthquake shook homes for more than two minutes and causing many people to flee and some guests to run out of Paradiso Hotel were so afraid they fainted. Also, a witness in the city of Poso said patients from at least one hospital were evacuated.

Indonesia is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the so-called Pacific "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanos and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin. In December 2004, a massive earthquake off Indonesia's Sumatra Island triggered a tsunami that thrashed much of the Indian Ocean coastline and killed more than 230,000 people.

Information Courtesy of The Morning Call



# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Rosen - English

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Elizabeth Rosen is a professor of English and is also new on campus this year. Currently, she teaches two courses, American Writers and British Writers. Next semester she will be teaching American Writers again.

She received her B.A. in literature from Boston University and her M.F.A. in creative writing from the University of New Orleans. She also holds a M.A. in history from the University of Sydney, Australia and a Ph.D. from the University of London, University College. Before coming to the College, she was a visiting professor at Lafayette College for two years. She also taught at Tulane University as well as Adelphi University.

Dr. Rosen chooses to study and teach literature because she believes that stories are more than just tales about what happens in everyday life. She finds it intriguing how stories are a type of collective communication, connecting over all different disciplines. She said, "At its most basic level, it's always about the story. Humans have been telling stories as long as they've had the language skills to do so, and what's most interesting is that - looking back through stories which have been preserved either through the oral tradition as Native American tales or fairy tales have or through the texts which has been written down - that even these earliest stories weren't merely stories about what happened to a person during the course of the day. They weren't merely histories which recorded events. We've been using symbols and metaphors and subtext to our stories for as long as we've been telling stories. All that suggests to me that narratives are more than just stories to human beings; they

are a far more profound type of communal communication and one well worth thinking about at greater length." Dr. Rosen believes that identifying the deeper levels of story-telling, as she described, makes a person a stronger and smarter citizen of the world.

In the upcoming year, she is going to be working on her second book, which takes the idea of symbols in literature quite literally. She is looking at texts which incorporate strange forms of typography or pictographic strategies to tell their stories. "Authors of these hybrid texts seem to value both the visual and written communicative forms equally, or maybe they believe that some stories can't be told in the traditional written form alone," she said, "So I'm thinking about how and why authors might use this hybrid form."

Dr. Rosen lives in the Easton area, so she is not particularly familiar with Allentown. Despite this she said she is always discovering new things about the area and the longer she's here, the more she likes it. She went on to say, "For someone interested in history or literature, Pennsylvania is such an interesting place, and there's so much to do. Because so much of Pennsylvania is rolling hills with forests, or farmland, it's impossible for a person like me, whose area of study is American literature, not to look out and see what it must have been like to actually have to pioneer the land."

For Dr. Rosen, her favorite thing about the College has been the students. She finds then not just extremely pleasant to work with and talk to, but also, really engaged in the classroom. On that note, the College wishes to welcome Dr. Rosen to the community and looks forward to her future contributions to the College.

## Dr. Crombecque - Mathematics

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Visiting Assistant Professor of Mathematics Dr. David Crombecque is new to the College this semester. He is currently teaching courses in Calculus I and II.

Dr. Crombecque's interest in math began with his determination to pursue a subject in college which had not come easiest to him. Moving on from high school where he called math his worst subject, Dr. Crombecque pursued a degree in mathematics from the University of Sciences and Technologies of Lille in France, where he became drawn to Complex Geometry. One of the largest cities in the country, Dr. Crombecque recalled Lille as a "pretty Flemish city" in northern France, just two hours north of Paris.

After receiving his Masters in Mathematics from the University of Sciences and Technologies of Lille in 1999, he furthered his studies through attending the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Dr. Crombecque received his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 2006, and to this day remains an avid fan of the USC Trojans. He began teaching at Bryn Mawr College in 2006, where he taught courses in Calculus, Linear Algebra, and Contact Geometry prior to his arrival here at the College.

Dr. Crombecque is offering sections of Calculus I and III next semester, and was excited to see them fill up quickly during the recent student registration for the spring. He is devoted to finding new ways to encourage students to take more math classes, saying that students of the sciences especially would benefit in their major from a strong knowledge of mathematics.

Student-Faculty relations are one of the areas that Dr. Crombecque

appreciates most about the College. "I love the fact that faculty and students are NOT running away from each other and interact so closely," he enthusiastically reported.

A resident of Philadelphia and a devoted Phillies fan, Dr. Crombecque still remains somewhat unfamiliar with the Allentown area. He looks forward to becoming acclimated with the city through his colleagues and students here at the College.

Next year, he hopes to devote more time to his research, which focuses on Contact Geometry, his particular area of expertise. This branch of geometry is one that he teaches to his Calculus III students, and he hopes to pursue additional study of the subject in the future.

In his spare time, Dr. Crombecque enjoys watching a good game of football, both the American and the European kind, and playing sports on his own, one in particular. A squash player, he strongly supports the reopening of the College's old squash court, saying that he would love to see the court in use and the sport pick up on campus. Dr. Crombecque explained his idea for its reopening, "if we could relocate the pilates sessions and wrestling, then we could reopen the old squash court!"

In addition, he likes to travel and spends most of his extended breaks travelling outside of his home city of Philadelphia, if not outside of the country.

He will undoubtedly aid the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science in its goal to present a curriculum custom fit to students' individual needs while exposing them to multiple facets of both subjects.

The College wishes to welcome Dr. Crombecque and looks forward to his further contributions to the College community.

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

Email

theweeklynews@gmail.com



## Alternative Spring Break

Once again, a number of the College's students are planning service oriented Alternative Spring Break trips. Chaplain Peter Bredlau reports that forty-four students have already signed up for one of four trips sponsored by campus groups. Hillel is organizing a trip to New Orleans, working on repairing Katrina damage in St. Bernard Parish; Comunidad Latina is sponsoring this year's trip to Juarez, Mexico, for school-building and other infrastructure projects; Lutheran Student Movement is sponsoring a service and advocacy trip focused on hunger and poverty in our nation's capital, and the College's Habitat group is sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity trip in Statesville, NC. Despite the economic downturn, the College's United Way pledge drive exceeded last year's in number of donors and, just slightly, in dollars.

## Admissions success

Although the twin challenges of a contracting market and a declining economy are weighing on collegiate admissions operations this fall, interest in Muhlenberg remains strong. Applications for Fall 2009 are running close to last year's record pace, and Early Decision application volume also has remained very close to last year's totals. Campus visitor volume is actually slightly ahead of last year, another signal of ongoing interest in Muhlenberg by prospective students and parents.



Students of the College in Juarez, Mexico on an Alternative Spring Break trip last spring spend time on a construction project rebuilding a school. They are seen here hard at work under the hot sun weatherproofing the outside of one of these school buildings. Similar Alternative Spring Break trips will be held this year..

PHOTO COURTESY OF KERRI COSBEAN

Information Courtesy of President Helm

## Campus Safety Notes

Nov. 10 - Medical - A sick student on the fourth floor of Walz Hall was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 10 - Medical - A visitor became sick while in the Seegers Union. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 10 - Medical - A sick student in the lobby of the Trexler Pavilion was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 10 - Medical - A sick student in the Phi Mu house was transported into the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 11 - Medical - A sick student on the second floor annex of Prosser Hall was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 11 - Medical - A sick student on the second floor of Taylor Hall was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 11 - Found Property - A set of keys was found on Liberty St. Keys were placed in lost/found.

Nov. 11 - Harassment - Specific information was

posted on a website about a student. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 11 - Dispatch Code - Found Property - Eyeglasses were found in the faculty/staff parking lot. Glasses were placed in the lost/found.

Nov. 11 - Lost Property - A student reported losing a cell phone somewhere on campus.

Nov. 12 - Found Property - A student ID card was found on a bus. The card was mailed to Campus Safety and was placed in the student ID card box.

Nov. 12 - Medical - A sick student on the third floor of Taylor Hall was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 12 - Medical - An injured student on the first floor of Brown Hall was transported to the hospital. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 12 - Theft - A GPS unit was taken from a vehicle on Liberty St. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 13 - Vandalism - Reports of vandalism to the outside of Trumbower. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 13 - Vandalism - Reports of vandalism on Turner St. Pictures were taken. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 13 - Theft - A banner was stolen from Parents Plaza. Banner reads "RA Applications Available." An investigation is ongoing.

Nov. 13 - Alarm - A fire alarm on the fourth floor of South Hall was set off by steam from a shower.

Nov. 13 - Liquor Law - An alcohol violation took place on the second floor of Walz Hall. Offending party was referred to the Dean's office.

Nov. 13 - Noise Complaint - Student on the second floor of Taylor Hall reported loud cheering. No further incident was reported.

Nov. 14 - Disorderly Conduct - An argument was reported on North Leh St. Offending parties were reported to the Dean's office.

Nov. 14 - Hit and Run - A student left the scene of an accident. Student has been identified and is going to be arrested by Allentown Police Department.

Nov. 14 - Alarm - Cooking set off a fire alarm

on 2201 Chew St.

Nov. 14 - Social Code - A student threw issued parking tickets on the ground. Campus Police identified the student by the license plate number on the discarded tickets. Student has been referred to the Dean's office.

Nov. 14 - Lost Property - A student reported losing an earring 2 weeks ago.

Nov. 15 - Liquor Law - A noise complaint on the second floor of Walz Hall led to the finding of a liquor law violation. Students were reported to the Dean's office. A student in the room forgot their ID card. Campus Police escorted the student to their room where, upon entry, Campus Police found more students violating the liquor law. Those violators were referred to Judicial.

Nov. 15 - Medical - Injured Student - An injured student on the third floor of Walz Hall was transported to the hospital.

Nov. 15 - Alarm - A fire alarm was set off by steam from a shower on the fourth floor of Robertson Hall.

Nov. 15 - Liquor Law - An alcohol violation on the third floor annex of Prosser Hall was reported. Students

were referred to judicial.

Nov. 15 - Liquor Law - An alcohol violation at the Phi Mu house was reported. Offending party was referred to the Dean's office.

Nov. 15 - Burglary - Forcible Entry - A laptop was stolen from a student rented house. Reporting party called Allentown Police Department. An investigation is ongoing.

Nov. 15 - Vandalism - Vandalism was reported on the third floor of Prosser Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov. 15 - Liquor Law - An alcohol violation was found on the second floor of Walz Hall. Offenders were referred to Judicial.

Nov. 16 - Liquor Law - An alcohol violation was found on the second floor of Benfer Hall. Students were referred to Judicial.

Nov. 16 - Noise Complaint - College Violation - A loud part was reported on North 22 St. Offending party was referred to Judicial.

Nov. 16 - Disorderly Conduct - Harassment by Communication - A fight was reported in the Martin Luther Parking Lot. No further incident was reported.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"The meaning I picked, the one that changed my life: overcome fear, behold wonder."

- Aeschylus

## Top Notch "Third Tiers"

By James McMaster  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The Muhlenberg Theater Association (MTA) is one of the most competitive, liberal arts college theater association out there. Fortunately for the students, the MTA has circumvented competition with the special productions, referred to as "third tiers." Students initiate and produce these productions in alternative spaces, with no budget, and provides an opportunity for all students in the organization to show the College what they've got. Steve Balliet is organizing "third tiers" this semester with the idea that all artists should have the opportunity to present their work in mind.

"*Women and Wallace* is a one-act play by Jonathan Marc Sherman

about the psychological consequences a parent's suicide has on their child's future relationships," says Director Alex Nagorski '10. The play went up on Nov. 14 and 15 in the Red Door. The cast featured Teddy Lytle as Wallace, the leading man, who anchors the show. Aside from Teddy, the cast and creative team consists of freshmen, sophomore, and junior girls of the Muhlenberg Theater Association. The whole cast offered extremely touching performances.

Audiences took part in the world premiere of another one-act play written by Brendon Votipka '09. The piece is based on Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* and is called *Like, Whatever*. "It follows the romantic entanglements of two teenage couples who are subject to the wills of their friends and ene-

mies in the games of romance." Justin Schwartz directed the work, which opened on Nov. 13, also in the Red Door. It featured a large ensemble cast who executed the contemporary comedy with sincerity and hilarity. Another cast that features freshmen is the performing ensemble of *Freshmen 15*. The name indicates the roughly fifteen acts for the freshmen to receive their fifteen minutes of fame.

It is also a play off of the fifteen pounds college students allegedly gain by the end of their freshman year. The ensemble was created and is led by Cait Murphy '12 and Katie Rie '12 in order to provide even more theatrical opportunity for freshmen in the competitive Muhlenberg Theater Association. The theme for this performance of *Freshmen 15* is "New Beginnings."

*My Name is Rachel Corrie* is an hour long piece based on the personal writings of Rachel Corrie, a young college graduate who joined the International Solidarity Movement at the age of 23 and who was killed by a bulldozer driven by the Israeli Defense Forces. The piece is directed by Alex Lotorto '09, a political science and film major, is being performed by an ensemble of talented freshmen girls. The open dress rehearsal was followed by a talkback with "Invincible", a hip-hop organizer for the Palestinian Youth Solidarity Network.

Other special productions presented in the past few weeks included *Love is Merely Madness* and *The Spotted Man*. Audiences responded with interest to all these shows with great turnouts of students supporting their peers.



Scenes from *Like Whatever* and *Women and Wallace*. Actors include Jen Apple '12, Faith Aronowitz '12, Brooke Benedetto '12, Ally DiIorio '11, Cara Lemire '12, Teddy Lytle '10, Maggie Rubin '11, Emily Spadaford '12, John Wentworth '11, and Danielle Zito '11.

PHOTOS BY BRENDON VOTIPKA





# Because you're worth it

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

A sad malady I've seen not only among my friends and other young adults, but also among people of every age, is that of relationship-contingent self esteem. Relationship-contingent self esteem is when a person bases their view of themselves on their current relationship status.

Granted, a boyfriend or girlfriend can always boost one's ego, but relationship-contingency is more extreme. It means that without a significant other or hookup the person feels entirely unhappy until they have secured one. One feels that without someone else to prove their worth, he is, in fact, worthless.

Oprah and I share the same opinion; that a person is born with worth and one doesn't have to earn it. Sadly, though, many people are brought up not being told that they have worth. This leads to a variety of issues, one of which

is relationship-contingent self esteem.

People with relationship-contingent self esteem tend to exhibit certain behaviors, such as continually going from one boyfriend to the next without any breaks in between.

They usually won't leave a relationship, no matter how bad it gets, unless they have someone else as a backup. With relationship-contingent self esteem, a person always has a hookup, boyfriend, or something in the works.

Also common is that his or her relationships are short-lived. This could be for a variety of reasons, one of which is that the relationships they fall into aren't necessarily desirable, but better than being alone (in their mind). Many times a relationship-contingent self esteemed person knows that they won't be with their signifi-

cant other forever but they don't want to be alone either.

Most noticeable, though, is that when relationship-contingent self esteemed people don't have a love interest, they concentrate all of their efforts on finding someone. It's all they think about and do until they've successfully secured someone.

Relationship-contingent self esteem doesn't only affect its bearer, but it also affects all of the people that they enter into relationships with.

Often, people are hurt when they date someone whose self esteem is relationship-contingent, because this person doesn't always like them all that much, but feels only that they need someone. That relationship usually ends with a boy or girl being dumped for the next person who comes along.

They were deceived into thinking that the relationship they had was real. Unfortunately, though, they were one more victim of relationship-contingent self esteem.

In reality, a relationship is most successful and fulfilling when both partners love themselves as they are, as well as their significant others. Relationship-contingent self esteem leads to exactly the opposite: unsuccessful and unfulfilling partnerships.

The behavior and mental mindset of people with relationship-contingent self esteem is very heartbreaking, because you just want them to realize that they have worth outside of a relationship. This might seem like an effective method, when really, it's useless.

The only way anything can change is if the person realizes on his or her own. People need to figure out their worth on their own and not justify it through someone else, soon!

LOVE  
&  
LIFE

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK: WHAT IS YOUR DREAM JOB?



"Doctors without borders"  
- Dave Cordero, '12



"Chairman of the Federal Reserve"  
- Jeremy Arnold, '12



"Adam Rogers' butler"  
- Brian Wernick, '09



"The butler to Adam Rogers' butler"  
- Adam Sosnik, '09



"The guy who names new Crayola colors and/or an amateur dragon rider and/or a cab driver in India"  
- Kevin Tomasura, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa

Fri. 5:25, 8:00, 10:15  
Sat. 5:25, 8:00, 10:15  
Sun. 5:25, 8:00, 10:15

### Quantum of Solace

Fri. 6:40, 7:30, 9:30  
Sat. 6:40, 7:30, 9:30  
Sun. 6:40, 7:30, 9:30

### Bolt

Fri. 6:50, 8:10, 9:40  
Sat. 6:50, 8:10, 9:40  
Sun. 6:50, 8:10, 9:40

### High School Musical 3: Senior Year

Fri. 4:30, 7:00, 9:50  
Sat. 4:30, 7:00, 9:50  
Sun. 4:30, 7:00, 9:50

### Twilight

Fri. 4:10, 7:10, 10:10  
Sat. 4:10, 7:10, 10:10  
Sun. 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

### Role Models

Fri. 5:00, 7:45, 10:00  
Sat. 5:00, 7:45, 10:00  
Sun. 5:00, 7:45, 10:00



# Britney's "Circus" Makes Her The Ringleader Of The Greatest Comeback In Music History

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

There's a lot that can be said about Britney Spears. The truth is that over the past ten years, we have all either taken a stance on loving her or loving to hate her. One thing that both sides cannot argue, however, is that she is an icon and a huge staple in the pop culture of this generation. From pop princess to train wreck, Britney is determined to regain her status as leader of the charts and the world's most notorious superstar.

In coordination with her twenty-seventh birthday on Dec. 2, she is releasing her sixth studio album, "Circus." Appropriately titled due to the whirlwind of craziness surrounding her in recent memory, this gem of a pop album is sure to have Britney reclaiming her crown and throne as she proves that no matter what, she is the untouchable and reigning queen of pop.

Opening the album is "Womanizer," the first single. Sounding like a mash-up of previous hits "Piece Of Me" and "Toxic," Spears establishes the electro-dance fused pop sound for the "Circus" era. In true Britney fashion, the song comes along with a steamy and controversial new music video, making it her first number

one single since she debuted on the scene with the classic "Baby One More Time." It is a truly catchy song with an infectious chorus that makes it impossible not to want to bust out and dance. Like the majority of the album, the lyrics are incredibly cheesy and uncreative.

Unlike other pop artists (such as Lady GaGa), however, Britney doesn't pretend to have substance to her lyrical content and isn't ashamed to admit she doesn't write it completely herself. The purpose of her music is to have fun and dance while listening to it. With "Circus," this goal is beyond accomplished.

The following track is undoubtedly the best on the album, which is perhaps another reason why the record is named after it. "Circus" starts out as a mid-tempo song that builds up into a crazy and upbeat club-friendly number. Intelligently slated to be the second single, it is not difficult to picture an epic and lavish music video to accompany it.

With a killer hook, a dance break, and constant changes in pace, the song is produced by Benny Blanco and Dr. Luke, those responsible for Katy Perry's recent hits "I Kissed A

Girl" and "Hot 'N Cold."

It is a guaranteed smash, as both radios and nightclubs will eat it up like candy. The song throws us back to Britney's "In The Zone" era, as it goes back to the roots of pop that made songs like "Me Against The Music" so big, and draws upon them to create a more evolved and sophisticated mature sound.

One of the most refreshing things about this album is the fact that Britney actually allows herself to really sing on it. When you compare her "Baby One More Time" album to last year's "Blackout," you can't help but wonder what happened to her voice.

No, it was never on par with Christina Aguilera or Mariah Carey, but she still had *something*. Why then as time evolved did her voice slowly morph into what ultimately sounded like a computer doing her vocals for her? Regardless of the reason, "Circus" goes against this trend and allows Britney's voice to overpower the AutoTune.

"Blackout" was also lacking due to there not being any inclusion of ballads. With Britney not afraid to sing to her full extent again, "Circus" provides us with both of

these missing factors.

We hear the maternal glow in her voice with "My Baby," an ode to her two children. On "Out From Under," Britney really showcases the range of her voice, proving those who say she can't sing completely wrong.

It's another bonafide smash, most likely to be the single following "Circus," and will easily join the likes of other Britney ballad classics such as "I'm Not A Girl, Not Yet A Woman" and "Everytime." "So let me go/just let me fly away/let me feel the space between us growing deeper and much darker every day/Watch me now and I'll be someone new/My heart will be unbroken/it will open up for everyone but you," she croons with so much vulnerability in her voice, making the song seem that much more genuine and thereby even lovelier.

Britney is clearly no longer going after the thirteen-year-old demographic like in the older days of her career. She understands that her fans have grown up with her and that she's working to please a young adult crowd now instead.

Easily the catchiest song on the album, "If U Seek Amy" is also the most controversial. There is no way

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## Don't let this happen to you

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

A two-car crash in front of Seeger's Union last Friday grabbed the attention of the College campus, but students need not be alarmed, but instead, relieved. The scene was a mock situation created by Muhlenberg College Emergency Medical Services (MCEMS) to educate the campus on the effect of drunk driving, and demonstrate how members would respond if such an incident were to occur.

"Don't Let This Happen to You," an hour-long event sponsored by MCEMS held on Nov. 14 at noon, allowed campus EMS members to practice protocol in the event of a multiple-injuries accident on campus.

The event had two purposes: "First, we wanted to educate the campus on the consequences of drinking and driving," said Joshua Cohen '11, Inspection Control Officer. In 2007, an estimated 12,998 people died in alcohol-

impaired traffic crashes involving a driver with an illegal BAC (.08 or greater) ([www.MADD.org](http://www.MADD.org)).

The event also gave MCEMS members a chance to gain hands-on practice, and enabled them to work with other emergency response teams in the Allentown area. "This was held to train EMS, and show how we work with outside agencies," Cohen said. "Our EMS would be the first to respond."

Twenty members of MCEMS, including eight posing as accident victims, were involved in the mock-crash scene. Allentown EMS, Allentown Fire Company, Cetronia Ambulance, and Macungie Ambulance also participated in the event. Campus Safety also "was also very integral in setting this up," Cohen said.

"[Director of Campus Safety] Thomas Dougherty was a huge help." MCEMS also received assistance from the College Health Center, and make-up artists from the Theatre department made volunteers involved in the reenactment

look convincingly like accident victims.

Cars were donated from the Allentown Fire Department, taken directly from an impound lot. "The cars were straight from accidents," Cohen said, noting that one vehicle had to be disinfected because there was still blood inside it due to previous accident. MCEMS also had planned to have an emergency helicopter land on the campus practice fields, but cancelled this due to inconvenient weather conditions.

"Everything went very smoothly," said Scott Kramer '09, MCEMS Captain. He stressed the importance of medical preparedness. "MCEMS is continually training," Kramer said. MCEMS is a

student-run organization and answers approximately 300 calls for medical assistance annually. MCEMS also provides stand-by services for major campus events such as Homecoming, Family Weekend, music concerts and Commencement.

"The thing people don't realize is that we're the first people on-scene. We are the initial contact point," said Kramer. "That's why it's so important that our members stay trained."



MCEMS after their demonstration

PHOTO BY JOSHUA COHEN



# "Quantum" of disappointment

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

A lot has transpired since 1963 when *Dr. No* was brought to the screen, but James Bond has been a great constant through all those years. One thing that has kept the series fresh has been its frequent re-invention. While the stream of actors has represented the most obvious change; Connery to Lazenby to Connery (again) to Moore to Dalton to Brosnan to Craig; there have been other, less obvious alterations. For most of Brosnan's reign, Bond was trying to go toe-to-toe with supervillians and was surrounded by Jerry Bruckheimer-inspired explosions. With Brosnan's departure, the decision was made to try something a little different. *Casino Royale* was, therefore, a departure from what 007 had become in the 80s, 90s, and 2000s, and a welcome one at that.

It felt new, different and satisfying, but it was really a return to what Bond used to be. From a personality standpoint, Craig is more like Connery than any of the actors who played the part in between. And, from an emotional standpoint, *Casino Royale* is related to Lazenby's only outing, *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*. Those are the only two films in which the unflappable hero fell in love; both which lead directly into a subsequent adventure in which revenge is served cold. *Quantum of Solace* (the unfortunate title is taken from the unrelated Ian Fleming short story) is the first sequel in the franchise, beginning only moments after *Casino Royale* ends.

*Quantum of Solace* is not as intentionally low-key as *Casino Royale*, but neither is 007, the indestructible superhero he had become on Brosnan's watch. But there is no Q

and therefore no gadgets. The only constant between the Brosnan and Craig eras is Judi Dench as M. Her presence in this installment, while necessary to all Bond films, creates headaches for continuity and, frankly, she spends too much time onscreen. Also, Jeffrey Wright who is Felix Leiter again, sadly representing the only time in Bond history that an actor has returned to play Bond's CIA contact.

The plot is standard Bond, albeit minus the whole idea of world domination. After all, the bad guy, Dominic Greene (Mathieu Amalric), isn't out to dominate the world, he only wants to cause a few droughts and control Bolivia's water supply. Bond gets involved because he's tracking down

the people who were responsible for Vesper Lynde's death at the end of *Casino Royale*. Clues lead him to the sexy but dangerous Camille (Olga Kurylenko). She in turn leads him to Greene. Meanwhile, M is getting pressure from her superior to rein in 007... or else. This gives Judi Dench an opportunity to get out from behind her desk. She hops from country to country about as easily as Bond hops from rooftop to rooftop, leading to about six location changes, and just as many head scratches.

Sadly, there's something hollow about the proceedings. There's no real rhyme or reason. In fact, the whole thing doesn't feel like a complete movie, or at least not a complete Bond movie. The SPECTRE-like Quantum, an organization that

has members in powerful places, is likely being established as an umbrella villain for future stories. Their role here is shadowy, and the way they are handled is part of the reason why the movie feels incomplete.

In addition, while there are plenty of nods to previous Bond outings, the missing staples leave unfilled holes. For example, there is no utterance of "Bond. James Bond" or "Shaken, not stirred." There are no verbal puns and one-liners we have come to relish. There's no bloody gun barrel at the beginning (it's at the end). Monty Norman's "James Bond Theme" is relegated to subtle cues in the generic score, with the theme occurring only over the end credits. For a die-hard Bond fan, such as myself, the exclusion of these staples are about as disappointing a choice in the franchise since Roger Moore swapped Bond's signature Aston Martin for a Lotus in *The Spy Who Loved Me*.

The film's biggest problem is its directing. Director, Marc Forster is a successful art house filmmaker with impressive credits (*Monster's Ball* and *The Kite Runner*), but he is clueless when it comes to action sequences. Forster seems to over-compensate for his inexperience and, to put it bluntly, his incompetence directing action sequences. His approach seems to be to shake the camera as much as possible and by using, as I call it, ADD editing; shots seemingly don't last for more than about a half-second.

Most of the action scenes, including a car chase, a plane chase, a boat chase, and a couple of fights, are so

incoherent that it's necessary to wait until they're over to figure out who's still standing. We've seen this technique before, but never with Bond. And, to be frank, it's not something I ever want to see again in a 007 movie.

Why should Craig have so many elaborately choreographed fight scenes, only to have them ruined by bad editing? These techniques belong to Paul Greengrass's "*Bourne*" series. Furthermore, Bond is not Bourne. 007 films are more character studies than action films and unfortunately, Forster seems to have blurred the line separating the two.

As the film's chief nemesis, Amalric (*The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*) is about as weak as one could imagine. Despite a creepy sneer, Greene is neither frightening nor intimidating. Amalric's vast talent is wasted in this role although, in fairness to him, he's not aided by the writing. Model turned actress, Olga Kurylenko (*Max Payne*) is a very good Bond girl. She is sexy, capable, and bound to Bond by ties that have nothing to do with love. She has a forceful screen presence and meshes well with Craig. She is one of the very few bright spots in the film. The lowest point of the film is the opening song Alicia Keys and Jack White collaborated on. It is quite possibly the worst Bond theme ever. (Madonna...you are now off the hook.)

After the quality of *Casino Royale*, it was too much to hope that Bond films had reached a new, higher plateau. This is the least satisfying Bond production since *Die Another Day*. But, as has always been the case with good and bad 007 films, we can find solace in the one thing we can rely on: James Bond will return.

"...a car chase, a plane chase, a boat chase, and a couple of fights, are so incoherent that it's necessary to wait until they're over to figure out who's still standing."

## MUSIC | FROM PAGE 11

that this song would have ever made it onto a previous Britney album, due to its blatant sexual imagery.

At first, it might be hard to decipher the word play it consists of, but after listening to it a few times, what is really being sung will hit you over the head like a ton of bricks. "All of the boys and all of the girls are begging to if you seek Amy," Britney sings. Huh? Rewind. "All of the boys and all of the girls are begging to f\*\*\* me." Oh, I get it now. Very, very clever Britney.

It's a play on words that may even go so far as allowing it to be played on the radio, while still being able to get away with the dirty talk she's trying to accomplish. It's an elec-

tronic club banger that makes me picture flashing lights, glow sticks, and disco balls coming at me from every angle in a dark room surrounded by the most high fashion of people in the East Village.

Other album favorites include "Shattered Glass," the S&M friendly "Lace And Leather," and "Unusual You."

These songs all showcase extreme sides of Britney that her music has never done thus far. In them, we get perspective on her outlook on divorce, sexual fantasies, and the sadness that is her confusion when people don't leave her because she's so used to it.

However, Britney and her team has successfully been able to translate these emotions into upbeat

dance numbers, making their inclusion make "Circus" sound more like a "Greatest Hits: Volume 2" record, than just a new album.

There really are no filler tracks, as each one of these songs was hand-picked to produce the best possible comeback record in music history, and guess what, it worked.

Unlike when "Blackout" was released, Britney is planning on doing heavy promotion for the release of "Circus."

A couple of weeks ago, she performed on stage with Madonna (whose recent album "Hard Candy" clearly heavily influenced "Circus") during the Los Angeles stop of her tour.

She is slated to go on a quick European promotional tour which

includes performances on television shows such as the United Kingdom's "X Factor" and France's "Star Academy."

On the day the album is released, she will be performing on "Good Morning America," with the following day devoted to lighting the Rockefeller Center's Christmas Tree at the annual ceremony.

The biggest and most exciting news, is that for the past few months she has been in rehearsals for a worldwide tour, to kick off at the beginning of next year sometime.

With a phenomenal new album and tour to follow it, Britney has proven that not only is she back, but she is ready and determined to conquer and dominate the world of pop music all over again.



# A General Manager's point of view

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Before I start this article, let me just confirm what everyone is going to ask me: yes, I actually talked to these four general managers in the NHL. Yes, these are exact quotes. And yes, I felt horribly insignificant while talking to them.

This is in response to the article I published last week ago on Stefan Legein and the NHL. I asked many GMs if the NHL puts too much pressure on young players. Read on to see what they had to say!

Scott Howson, General Manager, Columbus Blue Jackets:

"We got concerned about Stefan [Legein's] passion and commitment last spring when he told us he'd rather go home after he signed with Syracuse, he didn't want to play very much in the AHL playoff run; and so we had some concern there. I monitored him over the summer, and not much really changed; he did show up for our development camp, and then we got the notice a couple weeks before training camp that he did not want to report. So we did have some concerns, starting last spring.

"He didn't come and tell us, he did it through his agent, which is fine. And no, we didn't really...we weren't going to try and convince him to stay or anything like that. We thought it was best for him to train in Columbus over the summer, he didn't want to do that with a lot of our other young players. So no, we didn't try to convince him, but I think you need passion and commitment to play this game at a special level, and if it's not there, then I think you're wasting your time. So if he doesn't have it, then he probably made a good decision.

"I don't think it's the NHL, no, I think it's all the things, you know, Stefan played at a high level for a long time, he played in the national junior championships, a high level in the OHL, and maybe the game itself put pressure on him, because he's played so much for so long, I don't know that, you'd have to ask him. But I don't think it's the NHL, no."

(Have you talked to him since he quit?): "Oh yeah, we've talked to his agent numerous times [since he stopped playing], we're still communicating with him, and we talk maybe two or three times a month, with his agent, to see what he is doing, to let us know what their thoughts on this are. But we weren't expecting anything to change."

(What if Stefan wants to come back?): "That's a hypothetical question, I think we would want to understand the process of how he got to wanting to play again, and if it was genuine, then it could possibly be something we could talk about."

(What do you know about the Dan Ryder situation?): "Just what I read" Lou Lamoriello, General Manager, New Jersey Devils:

(Stefan Legein and Dan Ryder incidents): "I honestly have no idea, I have no background or knowledge, but I don't think the NHL puts pressure on anybody. I think that pressure comes from within, and every organization is run differently. I don't adhere to that."

(Have you had problems with players not wanting to play?): "Yes, I've seen it, for personal reasons, but it's more an exception, it's no different than people in life not wanting to go to work one day, maybe it's the vocation that they really choose, they're not happy. It shouldn't be the vocation, say, hockey, in this case, that is the cause. It's just natural. Not everybody is happy in everything they do, people change job descriptions, people change work vocations. I think it's under no circumstances, in fact, it's the love that you play, you play this game, you work at it, it's a passion. And sometimes people lose that for different reasons, could be personal reasons, could be health reasons, could be family reasons, could be pressure that they are not capable of handling."

(How to pick up on problems before they happen?): "You would need a crystal ball in 99% of the cases. Certainly, traits are different things. But it's something that you learn, and sort of...you're never going to be 100% sure...I've seen people change, because success wasn't where it should be. They had thoughts about themselves; people involved told us they were someone they weren't. They couldn't accept that...there's so much that goes into it; but it's life, it's not anything different. It's like people who can't handle jobs working in the industry, because of pressures, everybody handles things differently. I don't think that sports should be looked at any different. Sometimes the media pressures that people receive, or the negativity, you know, those are all things you can't make judgments on until people experience them. Some can handle it and some can't."

(On Steven Stamkos): "First of all, I don't talk about any players in any other organizations. I do know this young man, he is an exceptional young man, he is an exceptional talent, and he will have tremendous success in

this league; and he'll be a star. So I don't even worry about Steven in any way whatsoever."

Dale Tallon, General Manager, Chicago Blackhawks:

(Did you ever worry that Pat Kane and Jonathan Toews were busts?): "Every day, it's not easy, it's a tough job; I've been through it myself, and you worry every day if you're doing the right thing or not. And you never know, there's no scientific clues or facts on how to handle this. You deal with human beings, even though they're 18 year old kids, and it varies from player to player and from person to person."

(Any specific way of development for young players?): "We have all kinds of psychological testing and all kinds of things that we do in order to do as much as we can, and in order to get as much knowledge as we possibly can on the player's character; how they respond in certain situations, and how to surround them with the best people in order to get them to succeed. We have to have a good team that they can rely on, whether it's a trainer, a family to live with, psychological coaching, and giving them everything available to make sure these kids are protected, and to give them the best possible chance to succeed; that's what our goal is.

"We have to make decisions, whether they'll play or not, and whether or not they're going to be in it for the long haul. I mean, we're in it for the long haul with these kids, we don't want to destroy them in the first year or first month. We want to make sure they're surrounded by good players in the locker room, make sure they're rooming with the right guy, that veteran guy who can help them out on the road, and it's known; we do everything to try and protect these kids."

(Scouting combine: what kind of questions?): "We have this kind of testing called 'virtual coach' that we've utilized over the last couple of years, it gives us a lot of data; there's no right or wrong answers, and these kids voluntarily fill these questionnaires out, and then it comes out in their evaluation, what type of person they are, whether it's emotional or care-free...we try to get to know about their family life, what kind of stress there is in their life...we try and do everything we possibly can to make sure that we draft the right player."

(Any experience with troubled players because of pressure?): "I haven't had people come and tell me this, not to my face anyway. I mean, players have issues with off-ice things, and then they may come to me and ask me for advice, and that's also an issue of on-ice performance."

(As a GM, do you think it reflects on the league when a player quits like Legein?): "I don't think it has anything to do with the league, I think it's just part of this business. I mean, being a professional athlete, there aren't many people that do this for a living in the whole world; you know, you get six or seven hundred people maybe, making a good living out of this. You're in a tough situation. You've wanted this since you were a kid; some guys can handle it and some guys can't. It's just a matter of it's so easy to get other people to do it, because so many are successful at it.

I know, fortunately, because I lived it as a former second overall pick in the draft, and I can pass that experience onto our young players, it's just a matter of you can't point fingers at anybody, it's up to the individual. It's the pressures of being a professional athlete."

(Did you ever feel pressured as a player because of your draft spot?): "No, I mean, I think people just put pressure on themselves, they don't want to fail, they want to be good. They want to be the best they can possibly be."

(Have you ever passed over a player in the draft because of attitude issues?): "I'm sure that probably has been, you know, I can't give you anything exact, but I'm sure there were guys that we weren't sure about, not so much whether or not they could get past the pressure, as whether or not they are the right character for our organization. But I don't think it has to do with pressure. And there are always a lot of other reasons, you know?"

Paul Holmgren, General Manager, Philadelphia Flyers:

(Know anything about Ryder and Legein?): "No"

(How to pick up on a player problem before it happens): "That's why you watch the games, I think the interviews for most of those players are guys you've seen over the course of the year, and for their age group, it's a very high level of competition. I think that's where you get the first idea of how they handle pressure. I think the interview process, you can use it as a bit of a supplement, but it's got to be in and along the lines of what you've seen as well."



# Mules Men's Basketball Preview:

## Experience leads the way

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Experience. When senior captain Tim Murray was asked what the Mules biggest strength will be this year, he was quick to answer with experience. The Mules return all but one player from last year's squad, which finished 10-15 overall and 8-10 in the Centennial, missing the playoffs by only one game. The Mules are hoping their experience will provide the biggest missing aspect from last year's team: consistency. Last year's season was a compilation of ups and downs, of winning streaks and losing streaks. "We need to have a shorter memory" said Murray, and senior captain Darrel Roth agreed, saying the Mules need to "persevere and never get down on themselves." If the Mules can avoid the losing streaks that plagued them last year, this year's squad should be in the mix for a playoff spot in an extremely competitive Centennial Conference.

Leading the Mules will be one of the Conferences, perhaps one of the nations, most experienced backcourts. Running the show will be senior captain Chris MacIntosh, who in his fourth year as a starter should be one of the Conferences top assist-men and one of the areas elite point guards. At off-guard, the Mules return their top scorer from last year in senior Mike Bernardini, who averaged 13.6 points a game. Roth will also see starting minutes at the wing position, as his three-point shooting ability should help spread opposing defenses. Junior Brian Frankoski should see plenty of action as well in the backcourt, and with his length and ability in the open-court. Frankowski is one of the "X" factors heading into the season for the Mules. Rounding out the backcourt will most likely be sophomore Dave Gwyn and freshman Justin Greenstone.

Along the frontline, the Mules will boast one of the biggest, baddest, and most talented groups in the conference. Leading the way up front will be junior Pete Barnes, who at 6'9 should be one of the premier post players in the Conference. Last season Barnes averaged about 6 points and 6 rebounds per game, and the Mules need Barnes to develop into a dominant presence down low. Supporting

Barnes in the front court will be the combination of Junior Obi Nwizugo and freshman Spenser Liddic. Nwizugo presents match up problems for many teams, which allowed him to average 9 points and 5 rebounds per game last year. Liddic, a 6'5 smooth playing southpaw is reminiscent of NBA player Troy Murphy and should be an immediate contributor for the Mules around the basket. Starting at small forward will be Junior Ryan Foster, who was second on the team last year with 11.8 points per game. At 6'5, Foster possesses the ability to shoot over smaller defenders, which he will see virtually every game, and he led the Mules last season with 41 three-pointers. Off the bench, the Mules will look towards senior captain Tim Murray for a vital post defender, rebounding presence, and hustle inside. Sophomore Even Tozer, whose smooth and smart play earned him a start last season, should also see significant time for the Mules.

The Mules have the ability to be both a high-scoring offense as well as a tough defensive team. With the shooting of Bernardini, Roth, and Foster, combined with the post play of Barnes and Nwizugo, the Mules should be a difficult team to defend. Turnovers, poor shot selection, and an at times stagnant offense hurt the Mules on the scoreboard last season. Hopefully an extra year of experience will eliminate those weaknesses this year. Defensively the Mules have four players who registered over 10 blocks last season, led by Barnes with 31. From a rebounding aspect, the Mules should be a dominant team on the boards, with 5 players who averaged 4 rebounds a game.

If the Mules can add consistency to their vast arsenal of team abilities, they should expect to be a serious contender for a Conference playoff spot. The biggest tests for the Mules will be both Gettysburg and Ursinus, ranked #11 and #12 by D3hoop.com. The Mules open up this weekend with the Scotty Wood Tournament, hosting Hunter in the first round Friday at 8:00. The Mules begin conference play December 3 against Haverford.

### Sports Schedule

#### Football

NCAA Championship:  
Sat. Nov. 22 vs. Wesley, 12:00

#### Men's Basketball

Fri., Nov. 21 vs. Hunter, 8:00  
Sat., Nov. 22 vs. TBA, 3:00 or 8:00

#### Women's Basketball

Fri., Nov. 21 vs. St. Elizabeth, 6:00  
Sat., Nov. 22 vs. TBA, 1:00 or 6:00

#### Men's Cross Country

NCAA Championship:  
Sat., Nov. 22 at Hanover

Do you like to watch our  
Mules on the playing field?  
Want to do a better job  
than we already do?

Write for Sports!  
Contact Daniel at  
Daniel.Wayne@muhlenberg.edu

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(Being a player, with pressure): "I don't remember anything like that, I consider myself very fortunate to be a player in the NHL, and I took every day as 'well this is pretty neat,' so I don't have any recollection of [pressure]. I'm sure there was, you know it's a business, you want to win, the organization wants to win, but I don't remember feeling as if it had an effect on me one way or another."

(Development of young players): "Well, by the things we do over the course of the year with all our young players starting in the summer with our development camp, then coming to our rookie camp and our main camp, we try to prepare them for everything they're going to face, from off-ice issues to grocery shopping, in terms of nutrition, the value of proper diet, and anything we might face on the ice. Are we perfect, probably not, but I think we're willing to try anything to help our young players become the best they can be."

(Questions at the combine): "I think it varies, we asked a lot of different questions over the years, dealing with some background of their family life, what their long term goals are in life, where they see themselves in 5 years, who's your favorite player in your league, who is the toughest competitor in your league, you know, just trying to get a feel for the individual that you're talking with. I don't know if

there's any right or wrong questions."

(Do you sometimes lie awake at night wondering whether or not certain players are going to become busts?): "Well there's lots of things that make you lay awake at night, but I don't remember that being one of them."

(Ever passed over draftee because of attitude?): "I don't know if passed over would be the proper term. We might not put them as high on our list, because of character issues, outside issues, or whatever, we just may not have them as high on our list as we would if we knew they didn't have these issues. These players are all pretty decent players, but we have to figure out if we want to draft them in this spot, or if we want to pass over them."

(Reflective on NHL for Legein?): "I don't think it's fair for me to comment on that particular player, because I don't know what happened."

(Ever had problems with players?): "I don't think our business is any different from another business. People have their ups and downs. I think that comes with the camaraderie of your group, and contact with players on a daily basis. Sometimes the managers come into play whether they have to do something to spurn the performance of our hockey team. Hockey players are no different than any other walk of life, everybody has their ups and downs. You have some good days and have some bad days."

## Mules sweep Centennial Conference awards

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Muhlenberg's football team not only took home the Conference title this year but all the other conference awards. Senior running back John DeLuca was named Offensive Player of the Year, senior linebacker Matt Rathbun was named Defensive Player of the Year, and Head Coach Mike Donnelly was given the inaugural Centennial Conference Coach of the Year award.

DeLuca becomes just the 4th Mule to be named Offensive Player of the Year and first to do so since 2003. On the year, DeLuca led the Conference in rushing yards with 1,604, was tied for first in touchdowns with 18, and was second in all-purpose yards with 1,843. DeLuca also ran for over 100 yards in every game this year. This was also the second straight year he was named First-Team All-Centennial Conference.

Rathbun became the 3rd Mule to be honored with Defensive Player of the Year and first since Dan McCall in 2005. Rathbun led the Centennial Conference with 16 tackles for losses and led the Mules with 77 tackles on the season. He also had 4 interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown, three sacks, and a forced fumble. Rathbun was named Second-Team All-Conference last season.

Along with Rathbun and DeLuca, five other Mules were named First-Team All-Conference. Senior center Mike Nolan became just the 34th player in Conference history to be named First-Team All-Conference three straight seasons. Senior quarterback Eric Santagato, who led the CC in touchdown passes, junior wide receiver Phil Cresta, who led the CC in touchdown receptions, junior corner back Cam Ahouse, and senior nose tackle William Moates all received First-Team honors. Rathbun, DeLuca, Nolan, and Moates were four of six players to be unanimous First-Team selections. Muhlenberg currently holds the record for the most First-Team All-Centennial Conference players with 112.

Seven other Mules were named Second-Team All-Conference: senior tackle Mike Gawel, sophomore guard Mark Bigelli, sophomore place-kicker Michael Katz, junior defensive end Frank Emmett, sophomore linebacker Scott Gavin, senior cornerback Brandon Doyle, and senior safety Dave Mazzola. Mazzola was also named Honorable Mention All-Conference as punter.

## Scotty Wood 3 on 3: Where titans clash and history is made

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

With a clutch three-pointer by senior Tim Ganter, the 2008 Scotty Wood 3 on 3 basketball tournament came to a close. After three hours of intense basketball last Sunday, the team of Ganter, senior Billy Wishart, and junior Brian Ward took home the championship. The tournament was sponsored by the Scotty Wood marketing group with the help of Intramural Sports, and it was the kickoff event to Scotty Wood week 2008. 16 teams made up the field for the tournament, with over 50 players ranging from freshman to Senior and even a special guest alumnus participating in the competition.

Preliminary play saw the field of 16 split into four different regions, with the top two teams from each qualifying for the champi-

onship round. In the "West" bracket, Team Ganter and 2206 both qualified with 2-1 records. The "East" bracket was dominated by the GrubeMonsters, and Team Keith also earned a ticket to the next round. In the "South" Team Rowan finished undefeated and the Bearsss qualified as the second place team. In the most competitive region, the "Midwest," KonTiki went undefeated to reach the next round, but the remaining three teams all tied with 1-2 records. In a dramatic tie-breaking shootout, junior Drew Howley won the contest and Team Boyle advanced.

After the first elimination round, the Final Four was set with KonTiki facing the GrubeMonsters and Team Ganter facing top-seeded Team Rowan. In a back-and-forth seesaw affair, Senior Greg Leischner buried a dream-shattering three pointer as KonTiki

beat the GrubeMonsters 12-10. In the second semifinal, Team Ganter put on a dominating performance in beating Team Rowan. The finals would prove to be an instant classic, as the sharp shooting of KonTiki senior Joe Gogel and the strong play of sophomore Matt Cecconi gave tournament favorite Team Ganter all they could handle. Wishart's strong play in the paint, combined with two late deep-balls by Ganter proved the difference, as Team Ganter took home the title with an 18-16 victory.

Scotty Wood week continues with a campus bonfire, Thursday night at 8 on the library lawn. The Scotty Wood committee is providing hot chocolate and cookies for all who attend. And don't forget to come support your Mules this weekend, as the women tip-off at 6:00 and the men's team at 8:00 on Friday night.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Mules fall to Moravian in a game for the ages

By Tim Murray  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Muhlenberg and Moravian met for the 57th time on Saturday and the game exceeded all expectations. For just the 3rd time in this storied rivalry the game ended regulation with the score tied, but this was the first time the two teams would enter overtime against each other. Unfortunately for the Mules (9-1, 7-1), their 20 game regular season winning streak and 15 game Centennial Conference winning streak came to an end as the Greyhound's Ryan Rempe plowed into the endzone for his school record 4th touchdown of the day.

The Mules got off to a slow start on Saturday at Rocco Calvo Field as it seemed they would be down 14-0 entering the half. The presence of junior wide receiver Phil Cresta was obviously missed as senior quarterback Eric Santagato was having a tough time connecting with his receivers. But with just 20 seconds left in the half Santagato connected with Cresta's replacement, sophomore Bobby Bushong, in the back of the endzone to cut Moravian's lead to just 7 as the teams headed into the locker rooms for halftime.

With 5:33 left in the 3rd quarter it seemed that the Mules got the break they needed as freshman Chris Hartzell blocked the Greyhound's punt and picked up the fumble and rumbled 17 yards into the endzone for the score to tie the game at 14. The score remained tied until late in the 4th quarter when junior cornerback Cameron Ahouse picked off Marc Braxmeier to

give the Mules great field position on Moravian's 40 yard line. Muhlenberg converted on a crucial 4th and 7 when Santagato connected with senior receiver Edward DeRisi for the first. DeRisi finished the day with a career high 8 receptions. Senior runningback John DeLuca would find the endzone on a 17 yard run to give the Mules a 21-14 lead.

The Greyhounds took over and marched all the way down to Muhlenberg's 4 yard line, thanks in large part to a 63 yard run by Rempe. However, on 4th and 2 from the 4, Ahouse knocked down the Braxmeier pass attempt to give the ball back to the Mules. Just 2 plays later, Moravian struck back by forcing a fumble. The Greyhounds would score with just 54 seconds left in regulation to tie the game up and send it to overtime. In overtime the Mules received the ball and sophomore kicker Michael Katz connected on a 26 yard field goal to put Muhlenberg up 3. The Greyhounds got the better of the Mules on their possession as Ryan Rempe ran in from the 1 yard line to give Moravian (8-2, 6-2) the 27-24 win.

Even with the loss the Mules will still host a first round NCAA playoff game for the second consecutive year. Their opponent will be the Wesley Wolverines, who knocked Muhlenberg out of the playoffs last year 38-21 in Dover, DE. Wesley enters the game at 8-1 and winners of their last eight. The game will kickoff at 12 noon on Saturday at Scotty Wood Stadium.



Left: Freshman Chris Hartzell blocks a Greyhound punt and returns it for a touchdown; Center: Senior running back John Deluca racked up 148 yards on 40 carries and a touchdown; Right: Senior quarterback Eric Santagato threw for 1 touchdown and 3 interceptions.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Centennial Conference Playoffs 2008  
Wesley College Wolverines  
at  
Muhlenberg College Mules  
Saturday, November 22 @ 12:00pm



# Garden Room goes "tray-less" for the second time this year

By Kelly Frazee & Jillian Bevacqua  
NEWS & ASST. NEWS EDITOR

For the second time this year Garden Room served dinner without trays. Members of EnACT, the College's environmental action student group were present to facilitate the event while also selling t-shirts and booklets to raise money.

When asked about the pros and cons of going tray-less the members EnAct said that they do not see many cons among the overwhelming amount of positive effects. First off, eating meals without trays has proven to cut back on both food consumption and food waste. It also cuts back on waste of water and energy. It takes one-third to one-half of a gallon of water to clean each tray, and that's not to mention the amount of energy that goes into heating that water.

EnAct also said that last time they did a tray-less day earlier in the semester, they spent time after the Garden Room closed measuring the amount of waste that was collected per student. Overall there was a quarter of a pound reduction per student in the amount of food waste that was left behind in comparison to days that trays are used.

The members also expressed that going tray-less is not something that is being done only here at the College. Sodexho, the College's food provider, encourages the reduction of trays and hope to gradually eliminate trays at the school they supply. Other schools in the area have gotten

rid of trays completely. Moravian no longer uses trays in their dining facilities on Tuesdays and one dining hall at Lehigh is tray-less everyday in addition to another cafeteria which also has tray-less days.

Dr. Rich Niesenbaum, the Head of the Biology Department explained that it is important to explain to the student body why we want to go tray-less in order to gain their support. While the reactions to these explanations were not always positive, Dr. Niesenbaum acknowledged that in any case it at least got people talking about it.

Sodexho hopes to implement Moravian's tray-less Tuesdays here at the College. but EnACT members agree that before they do so, the student body has to approve. Therefore, to educate students on the benefits of going tray-less, EnACT hung many factual signs around the Garden Room that did not go unnoticed.

Student comments ranged from comments about these signs to remarks about the temperature of the plates. "I think it's a nice idea but sometimes bowls are hot and difficult to carry. So it should be tray-less but mitts optional," said Rebecca Wienstien '12 with a laugh. "Well it's a small inconvenience but I think it's fantastic and I really approve," said Adam Hutz '10.

Most students recognize the benefits of going tray-less despite their opinions on the inconvenience of making multiple trips to and from the table. "I think

it's important and I realize how much waste we're creating but it is a slight inconvenience to make so many trips back and forth from the table," said Amy Bauer '10. Matt Friedland '12 and Nick Busillo '12 felt similarly, "It's annoying to carry two drinks and our plates but we think they should do this once a week because it's good for the environment."

Other students had suggestions as to how these inconveniences could be remedied. "I think it's a good idea," said Natalie Laucius '11, "but I think that if they're going to continue to do this, the Garden Rooms needs to get bigger plates." Julian Lumpkin '09 also had some improvements in mind. "Instead of going tray-less, students at the College should make an agreement with Sodexho in which Sodexho buys higher quality foods in lower quantities. This would solve the waste problem as well as benefitting both the students and Sodexho," he said. Sally Bucey '12, had similar sentiments and exclaimed, "If they want to eliminate food waste, they should make better food."

Further student comments were more on the objective side. Melissa Michaane '11 said, "While I could get used to it I don't think it's efficient. It will cause more traffic with people getting food but if the student body is for it then why not? We'll all get used to it!" Philip Congiardi '12 was even more receptive and to the point. "It doesn't matter to me. Do what ya gotta do!"



Members of EnACT and their advisor and Biology Department Head, Dr. Rich Niesenbaum, take a break by posing for a photo behind their information table.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA



In between tray-less tray holders hung one of the many signs that EnACT spread throughout the Garden Room to encourage students to embrace the tray-less dinner.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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Editor-in-Chief

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## What to do about illegal immigration

### Discount, at what cost?

We find it appalling that Americans are willing to disregard the safety and well-being of their neighbors in order to save a few bucks. How much is a human life worth? American society has gotten to the point where they are willing to kill another human being to save 20% on a frivolous item.

At 5 a.m. on Nov. 28, Black Friday, Jdimytal Damour, a 34 year-old employee at a Wal-Mart on Long Island, was trampled to death by a mob of shoppers impatient to get into the store. What is equally disturbing is that despite the appearance of the worker lying helplessly on the floor, shoppers showed no empathy and continued undeterred in their material pursuits. After the police arrived and told the throng of waiting shoppers the store was closed due to a death, the shoppers complained about waiting in line for a "great deal" of time.

To us, it is incompressible that anyone can have the mentality where a discount is more important than a human life. How did it escalate to the point where the saying "stepping on someone to get what you want" became literal? If the mob had put their discount shopping goals into perspective, maybe they would have done the right thing from the beginning and avoided this whole tragedy all together. We wonder if this will be a wake up call to others or if they will merely pass it off as a holiday annoyance, rather than the horrible occurrence that it was.

This was truly a Black Friday if we ever saw one. We can't help but wonder how this case will be prosecuted.... if at all. Due to the volume of people it is nearly impossible for the prosecutors to point the proverbial finger of blame. Is everyone guilty because no one stopped to think or only those who trampled the worker to death? Or, should the store be to blame for not having enough security?

Despite the fact that Black Friday's mob mentality is hard to control, we believe that people should be responsible for their own actions and when faced with such circumstances know what is the right decision. We wish, overall, that this never had to happen, and we grieve for the family. We hope that for the rest of the season people become more aware of their surroundings, as well as the other frustrated people in line when they are out shopping.

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

As citizens of United States of America, we ought to realize the appeal of our great nation. Most of the world sees America as the land of opportunity, the land of the free and the home of the brave, the country where the streets are paved with gold; well, it is true. The U.S. has become one of the most prosperous and generous nations in the world. American values offer opportunity and the chance to make a better life.

These perks naturally draw thousands into the U.S. everyday. Unfortunately, our immigration problem has become chaotic. The debate over illegal immigration has become a divisive issue. Conflict has come about in regards to the U.S.-Mexico fence, deportation, businesses that employ illegal aliens, cultural differences and integration, and reforming our current immigration system. Illegal immigration poses serious problems so it is critical for the federal and state governments to make changes to our system in order to have successful immigration.

The first step in correcting the immigration challenge is to secure our borders. The government needs to address the influx of illegal aliens before any other action is taken. All of this talk about a fence is part of the solution, but not the only part of the solution. A border fence can prevent the crossing of hundreds of illegal aliens along with the use of high tech surveillance systems including cameras, motion sensors, and unmanned patrol drones.

Our border patrol needs assistance. In addition to our southern border, our coastal entry points have to be heavily monitored. Airports and sea ports are likely targets for smuggling illegal aliens into the U.S. The TSA and Coast Guard need continued funding and federal aid to keep on the lookout. Illegal immigration poses a major threat to national security. The fact that hundreds enter our country unchecked and unregulated is frightening. We should be aware of an immigrant who is a convicted felon back home, of an immigrant who has a connection to al-Qaeda, or an alien who is a known drug trafficker.

Some anti-immigration activists propose immediate and complete deportation. This is not the answer. Deporting millions will not

SEE IMMIGRATION PAGE 3

*Illegal immigration poses serious problems so it is critical for the federal and state governments to make changes to our system.*

## Legitimate representation

By Jonathan Falk  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Coming back from Thanksgiving break, one can gain much perspective on the lives we lead and the great situation that we are a part of at the College. We have a community here that is warm and welcoming and one that is accessible and receptive to student input and concerns.

Now this is where I caution us, the student body. We need individuals to represent a legitimate constituency-sizeable representation of our community, not just an extreme so-called activist's view representing less than one tenth of one percent of the student body which is more or less no one's view but their own.

Therefore, how do we know what a legitimate constituency is? Like almost everything, it is something that should be looked at on a case by case basis. For example, the College has approximately 2,150 students; so, to make math simple that's the number we are going to use.

What shall the role of an individual's voice have on the entire student body? Isn't it impor-

tant to have voices on the right and voices on the left to come to a moderate compromise to best serve the student body? And because of this, should we let one voice try to dominate the faculty, staff and administration? These are all questions and concerns that I, as well as many individuals in the student body, share.

*Isn't it important to have voices on the right and voices on the left come to a moderate compromise to best serve the student body?*

Therefore we need to remember something simple: one voice is just one voice. We have the ability to listen and must let that voice be heard. However, we need not forget that one voice is only one voice and there are 2,149 other voices to take into consideration.

While some may call those other voices on campus "apathetic" or "disengaged," I say apathy alone is not the problem; the average student is very much content with the situation that they are in at this welcoming "Red Door" Lutheran College.

Should we let an unreasonable objector dominate an agenda that is not aligned with the stu-

dent majority? The answer is NO, and we need to let the administration know this. We should not let the radical ideas of one voice pester the administration. While they should be heard, they should not be considered a representation of even the smallest percent of the student body.

*We need not forget that one voice is only one voice and there are 2,149 other voices to take into consideration.*

Additionally, other stunts such as the disruption of campus events have caused the College unnecessary stress, especially regarding this institution's funding during a time of economic upheaval. It is also unfair to us, the students, who are trying to get the best education and experience possible. This fanatic is causing the College to dip into funds that could be going toward bettering our education and our overall college experience.

So I finish with this: just because one so-called activist distastefully spreads biased rhetoric on the the College campus at any available opportunity does not mean that the rest of us are not activists. Rather, instead of fighting for unreasonable reform, we choose to fight for stability.



# The next administration taking form



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

Many people discussed the prospect of Hilary Clinton serving as Barack Obama's Vice President. The argument was that the pair would be unstoppable in terms of winning the election, even after tearing each other apart for months on the Primary campaign trails. As it turned out, Obama's choice of Joe Biden for Vice President worked out well enough as he rolled to an easy victory over John McCain. Yet, he

didn't forget about Clinton when assembling his national security team.

Earlier in the week, Obama officially announced Clinton as his nomination for Secretary of State. The choice might puzzle a few people at first, considering some of the expressed differences of the two politicians during the primaries. It is true that they don't necessarily have the exact same foreign policy views, which isn't the worst thing in the world. Obama is trying to avoid the "groupthink" mentality that lead to the downfall of the Bush administration's foreign policy decisions. There is nothing wrong with intelligent people challenging and debating each other to find the best solutions for America's problems. Mistakes are made when everybody marches to the beat of one drum and refuses to question poor decision making.

Another notable selection by Obama was of Erik H. Holder to be the next Attorney General. Alberto Gonzales and John Ashcroft were

*Obama officially announced Clinton as his nomination for Secretary of State; even though they don't have the same exact foreign policy views.*

both unmitigated disasters at the position in the Bush administration, leaving plenty of work to be done by Holder, who has a strong history of working with both parties. He was elected for previous positions by both Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan.

As expected, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates was chosen to stay on for the time being. How long he remains on staff is something that remains to be seen. In his press conference Obama expressed confidence in the ability to withdraw major combat troops from Iraq within sixteen months, although he stated he is open to listening to the commanders on the ground and isn't locked into a timetable.

Most people's primary concern right now is the economic situation in this country. We are in a recession, as the Dow dropped 680 points this past Monday. The economic problems do not have an overnight solution but must be at the top of Obama's list of

things to start attempting to take care of.

However, that doesn't mean America still isn't facing a lengthy list of foreign policy issues. Obama must decide how to handle the next few months of the Iraq War, how to engage Iran before our relations with them deteriorate any further, and how to deal with Israel's ongoing peace talks with Syria.

As President Bush heads out of office, he has truly left a pile of crap in the incoming administration's lap. Obviously, not everything is his

*Obama is trying to avoid the "groupthink" mentality that led to the downfall of Bush. There is nothing wrong with intelligent people debating each other to find the best solutions for America's problems.*

fault but the problems all still exist. People need to understand that all of America's problems aren't going to be solved overnight thanks to a new

President. It is going to be a process, one that Barack Obama and a highly qualified, diversified cabinet appears ready to face.

## IMMIGRATION FROM PAGE 2

solve any problems. We ought to embrace the desire for immigrants to come, but all illegal immigrants presently in the U.S. should be required to provide background checks. They should also apply for legal citizenship. As members of our society it is necessary for illegal immigrants to assume responsibilities required of all Americans. Immigrants ought to pay taxes. They are not entitled to public education, public healthcare, or social security if they are not contributing to our society. America does not give handouts of tax payer dollars to those who do not pull their own weight.

It is truly irresponsible of American businesses to hire illegal immigrants. Taking advantage of immigrants and paying them below minimum wage is

*The cultural aspect of immigration is extraordinarily important. With a greater influx of immigrants, America needs to assimilate them into its culture.*

wrong. Businesses should be penalized for hiring illegal aliens. These businesses are provoking more illegal immigration by offering work without requiring their employees to go through the proper channels. Even though hiring illegal immigrants is a crime, the use of guest worker programs is part of the solution. A regulated, limited guest worker program is a great incentive for foreigners to work and become acquainted with American life. The use of guest worker programs can not be

turned into free rides into the U.S. These programs are temporary, once immigrants return home they can apply for a legal U.S. citizenship.

The cultural aspect of immigration is extraordinarily important. With a greater influx of immigrants, America needs to assimilate them into its culture. It is critical we turn back to the principle of a "melting pot," not a "salad bowl." Those who desire citizenship should embrace American values and tradition. Practicing American values does not imply dropping your heritage, but it does mean being an American first. As Americans we are American-Asians, American-Italians, American-Russians, American-Mexicans. Immigrants should have a historical understanding of the United States and learn English. These defining characteristics unite us as Americans.

The United States has a daunting immigration challenge. The U.S. can alleviate the problems created by illegal immigration by enforcing the current laws, protecting its borders, creating controlled incentives for immigrants, and encouraging patriotic immigration. America is a country of law and order; it must be fair to those who have played by the rules.

## THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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# Tour de France

By Ben Levine  
LIFE EDITOR

To many Americans, who are used to football, baseball, and basketball, the Tour de France is that little race on bicycles that Lance Armstrong dominated. Few understand the intricacies and the beauty of the Tour. Too many people are afraid of the Tour because it is not easily relatable to the sports we already know. The differences between the Tour and the big four are what make the Tour great. Given the basic structure of the games of American sports, it should be refreshing to watch something different.

First, it must be made clear that the Tour is not NASCAR. The riders of the Tour are among the greatest athletes the human race has ever offered. The Tour is not a sprint, but a twenty-three day odyssey covering 2,200 miles.

It is not just the fact that they are covering that much distance, but the beauty and variety of the landscape which they cover. You haven't seen beauty until you see a long stream of cyclists flowing like an organism on pitch black pavement through verdant fields. After the countryside, they hit the mountains. The climbers attack the Pyrenees like

Clydesdales straining to exert every last ounce of energy. However, the ascent is nothing compared to the race down the mountain. The riders careen downhill at breakneck speeds inches away from lethal drops.

There is immense variety between stages and even in each individual stage. Unlike the oblong track of NASCAR, the style of the Tour de France course provides for a unique experience during every stage.

Unlike a prototypical sporting event, there isn't a winner and a loser. In the tour, there are four jerseys to win: yellow (general classification leader), green (sprinter), polka dot (king of the mountain), and white (young rider). The polka dot jersey allows for an exciting moment around the half point. The green jersey is won by the rider who is the best sprinter. The sprint is not like track with clear white lines. There are a few inches in between each rider and there are often macabre scenes when a rider goes off course.

For those who like to watch college football, the white jersey is for you. This is the best rider under 25. It is interesting to watch riders who previously won the white jersey climb to win the yellow - the maillot jaune.

One of the most fabled aspects of

the Tour de France is the breakaway. Some of the most exciting races are those in which a rider or a group of riders breaks away from the peloton - the main body of riders. The viewer will often watch as the gap between the breakaway and the peloton reaches its peak and then begins to slip to nothingness. The viewer can see a look of utter despair on the face of a rider looking back to see the peloton swallow him up.

The most entertaining part of the Tour de France can be the fans. If you think Raiders fans are crazy, think again. The courses are scattered with mobile homes in which the fans have been sleeping. They tailgate like you wouldn't believe. Sleeping next to the courses allows them to start drinking as soon as they wake up, which can make for some interesting scenes.

Fans dress in a wide variety of costumes. The typical fan will run along with the riders waving their countries' flags above their heads. A man who dresses up as the devil every year and follows the riders on foot is a fan favorite. Because of the length of the routes, policemen cannot stand along the whole course.

Usually, the peaks of the mountains are the most harrowing areas. Crowds spill onto the road, allowing

riders only a few inches between them and the fans. The people of the French countryside also pose entertainment. They will make messages out of bales of hay or, in some cases, themselves.

Unfortunately, steroids have done to cycling what they have done to other sports. Floyd Landis was the worst thing that ever happened to cycling. However, there have been drastic steps taken in order to clean up the sport. Not only did Landis detract from the sport itself, but from Lance Armstrong's legacy. In the course of his career, barring a successful comeback, Armstrong won seven yellow jerseys. Watch him look back at Jan Ullrich then commence to reach another gear, that nobody ever reached before, and there is no way to not admire the athleticism needed to be a successful cyclist. Now, a thirty-seven-year-old cancer survivor with every non-American hoping to prove that he took steroids, his story is irresistible.

The Tour de France is a thing of beauty which could take years and a greater understanding of the intricacies of racing and of the stories behind the riders and their rivalries. However, the scenery, the athleticism, the relationships; make an irresistible combination.

## A time for change

By Rachel Majkszak  
ASST. OP/ED EDITOR

For many, 2008 has been a year of change. "Change" was the political buzzword of the season. Sensing that change was what Americans were looking for, both Barack Obama and John McCain pledged to bring it to Washington. When the candidate who was founded on the message of hope and change proved victorious on November 4, many were elated at this prospect of change. Others were saddened, disappointed, maybe apprehensive, about a change from the past eight years. Like any kind of change, the dawn of a new administration may be difficult and no one can predict what is to come.

As the year draws to a close, I've been realizing just how much change has occurred - and not only politically. We have all heard some form of the quote "the only thing constant in life is change." I have always been very hesitant to change. I like when everything is in order, and switching out of my daily routine makes me nervous. But for me, 2008 was a year of personal change as well. After studying abroad the fall of my junior year in England, I experienced the difficult change and transition of arriving back in America. Just a few weeks later, my life changed again when I moved to Washington, DC to live and intern for a semester. Working a full-time political job was certainly a change from my three month vacation in Europe. After my year of independence away from the safety of home and Muhlenberg, it was time to head back to the College to start my senior year. I headed back to school a changed person after my whirlwind year. Unfortunately while I had changed, the College, aside from a few renovations and a refurbished salad bar in Garden Room, had not.

Change can be scary. It's not easy to continuously leave our comfort zone, meet new people, and try new things. And it's not easy to cope with how much things have changed, or realize that things might not go back to the way they were before. But this year taught me that change can be exciting. Change provides an opportunity to learn about yourself, to expand your horizons and to see the world in a different way. Every time things change, something else gets left behind. But things get added, too. People, experiences, and memories will stick with us for years to come and are collected to make us the unique individuals we are.

So as we leave the College in 2008 and come back in 2009, we will experience a change. Everyone at the College will soon confront some sort of change in the new year. Freshmen are still coping with the change that life after high school brings and sophomores may be dealing with the sophomore slump as they are suddenly faced with many decisions and the reality of college sets in. Juniors may be experiencing life abroad or transitioning back. As for us seniors, we are headed for one of the biggest changes of our life. Although I'm hesitant to mention the G-word, it will soon be upon us and we will be faced with many life decisions. But we shouldn't think about the change of the year with trepidation but instead with anticipation. A change in the year brings some endings but also a chance for new beginnings and exciting experiences. As we change our calendars on January 1, we will also get ready to make a few other changes. Since there is nothing we can do to stop the change from coming, the best we can do is sit back, embrace the change as it comes our way, and enjoy where it leads us.

## London calling




By Rebecca Sachs  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

When I was eight-years-old, I went to sleepaway camp for the first time. For two months I would be a two and a half hour drive away from my family, and my fear was there from the moment I signed up until the moment I stepped onto the bus to take me to Tyler Hill Camp. But when I stepped onto the dirt path on campus, I never looked back.

It amazes me how much weaker I feel now at twenty-years-old about leaving my family and my friends behind me yet again. On New Year's Eve I leave for London - a place I have never been before - for five months. I'm going to be in a place where it rains more than the sun shines; a place where you have to be careful about the kind of meal you order; a place so very different from where I have been the past twenty years of my life.

But with all the ever-present weakness I am feeling, I have decided to use it as motivation and encouragement. As frightened as I am to leave what I am used to, I'm so much more excited to go to a new place and experience things I can't even fathom while writing this. I guess that's the power and complexity of the human spirit - there's a resilience in human nature that allows for us to where we are beyond terrified of going, because it is the risks we take that inevitably take us to the greatest places. Cheerio!

# Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
<b>Mostly Cloudy</b>	<b>Mostly Cloudy</b>	<b>Snow Showers</b>
<b>High: 32</b> <b>Low: 21</b>	<b>High: 36</b> <b>Low: 26</b>	<b>High: 31</b> <b>Low: 21</b>

**TOP 5 REASONS TO GO TRAY-FREE**

1. Reduce water consumption.  
*Sodexo calculated that the average environmental impact is a savings of about 200 gallons of water a day per 1,000 meals served by not washing trays.*
2. Reduce food waste.  
*Food wastes are predicted to be reduced by 3.36 ounces per person per meal when going tray-free.*
3. Reduce energy consumption.  
*Less water must be heated to wash trays.*
4. Reduce the amount of polluting detergents going down the drain.
5. Avoid the freshman-15!

Among the many signs hung in the Garden Room during its tray-less dinner on Tues, were flyers promoting the top five reasons to rid the college of the use of the trays.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

## Correction!

In the article "Student Government votes on first round of budgets" in the Nov. 20 issue it was incorrectly stated that the first round of budget proposals was presented on Thurs. Nov. 13. They were actually presented on Thurs. Nov. 20.

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**KAPLAN** TEST PREP AND ADMISSIONS



# The College boasts top scores in the 2008 National Survey of Student Engagement

By Jana Elfenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

The College has recently been acknowledged for receiving top scores for "Supportive Campus Environment" in the 2008 National Survey of Student Engagement. This survey is a national assessment that measures student-faculty relationships and their interactions with one another, how supportive the campus environment is as a whole, how inspiring the learning experience is for the student, the level of scholastic challenge, and how dynamic and collaborative the learning is overall. Seven hundred and twenty-two institutions with a four year program participate in this survey with around three hundred and eighty thousand students responding to the questions. Other small schools that participate in this survey consist of Bucknell University, Swarthmore College, Colgate University, Dickinson College, Drew University, and Connecticut College.

It is reported that at the College there were two hundred and ninety-two first-year students and two hundred and fifty-four seniors who participated in this evaluation. Results have revealed that ninety-four percent of the freshman class feel as if they have positive relationships with the faculty members, while eighty-nine percent of the first year students believe they have positive relationships with other students on this campus.

This is an extremely high rating compared to the other small liberal arts schools in the nation.

The 2008 survey results solidify that the College provides an ample support system for students' academic as well as social needs. Also, this confirms that the college truly helps first-year students manage a variety of matters, not only ones pertaining to academics. Along with the outstanding results that this survey obtained from the first year students at the College, the senior class added to these as well. The survey illustrates that the senior class as a whole positively rates their relationship with the faculty and the administrative personnel and they believe that the College provides a substantial support system for the students' social needs. Furthermore, the survey verifies that they participated in a community-based assignment as an element of a regular course. Dr. Kathy Haring, Professor of Psychology and Associate Dean for Institutional Assessment, states, "Our NSSE results show that the Muhlenberg experience is one where students are challenged to do their best work within a close and supportive campus community."

The College has always been highly praised for its notable sense of community and affability. The results from the National Survey of Student Engagement further prove these convictions to be true. Muhlenberg students not only enjoy receiving

an education here to help expand themselves as intellectuals, but also they like the sense of community and environment that comes along with it as well. Muhlenberg students tend to be happy students who are immensely enjoying their college career. A combination of faculty and staff, who truly care about the student's intellectual growth, along with genial students helps create this vast sense of community. A place where students call their "home away from home."

2009 marks the tenth full-scale national administration of the National Survey of Student Engagement. After a decade of surveys, those involved with the creation of this survey will review the NSSE items, scales, and benchmarks to help them with future assessments. The design team for future NSSE surveys is striving to include additional items that will help illustrate particular college outcomes, items that are helpful to both a private and public four-year education, and items that directly affect the concerns of freshman and senior level students. Overall, the National Survey of Student Engagement aims to help improve colleges and universities across the nation by finding the school's strengths and weaknesses. By understanding the weaknesses, the National Survey of Student Engagement hopes that the school will then take it upon themselves to strive to fix those problems.

## OFF CAMPUS

### *Obama team promotes recovery plan*

After more than two weeks of near silence on the economy, President-elect Barack Obama's transition team demanded swift passage by Congress of a massive two-year spending and tax-cutting recovery program. The program urges Congress to pass jobs, an implement a tax-cut proposal by Jan. 20.

Obama aides called on lawmakers to pass, by the Jan. 20 inauguration, legislation that meets Obama's two-year goal of saving or creating 2.5 million jobs. Democratic congressional leaders said they would get to work when Congress convenes on Jan. 6.

Though Obama aides declined to discuss a total cost, it probably would far exceed the \$175 billion he proposed during the campaign, but would not immediately seek to raise taxes on the wealthy.

With the economy worsening, the Obama team's new assertiveness was a recognition he needed to soothe the financial markets with signs of leadership. "We don't have time to waste here," Obama senior adviser David Axelrod said. "We want to hit the ground running on January 20th."

Obama's team didn't limit itself to the long-term economic recovery. Axelrod warned automakers, seeking billions in government help to stave off collapse, to devise a plan to "retool and restructure" by next month. Otherwise, he said, "there is very little taxpayers can do to help them."

The emphasis on the economy began Saturday when Obama outlined the framework of a plan to save or create 2.5 million jobs by the end of 2010. The scope of the recovery package is far more ambitious than what Obama had spelled out during his presidential campaign, when he proposed \$175 billion of spending and tax-cutting stimulus. The new one will be significantly larger and would incorporate his campaign ideas for new jobs in environmentally friendly technologies.

### *One dead, four injured*

*at N.Y. Wal-Mart*

A Wal-Mart employee was trampled to death on Friday when out-of-control shoppers desperate for bargains broke down the doors at a 5 a.m. sale. Other workers were also trampled as they tried to rescue the man. Police and witnesses said that customers shouted angrily and kept shopping when store officials said they were closing because of the death.

At least four other people, including a 28-year-old woman who was eight months pregnant, were taken to hospitals for observation or minor injuries. The store in Valley Stream on Long Island closed for several hours before reopening that same day.

Some shoppers saw the man on the ground but ignored him and stepped over him in their frantic attempts to get to the good deals before others. When told to leave, they complained that they had been in line since Thursday morning.

Nassau County police said about 2,000 people were gathered outside the store doors at the mall about twenty miles east of Manhattan. The impatient crowd knocked down the man, identified by police as Jdimytai Damour of Queens, as he opened the doors. The shoppers also left a metal portion of the frame crumpled like an accordion.

"This crowd was out of control," said Nassau police spokesman Lt. Michael Fleming. He described the scene as "utter chaos" and said the store did not have enough security. Damour, 34, was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead about 6 a.m., police said. The exact cause of death has not been determined. Police said criminal charges were possible in the case, but Fleming said it would be difficult to identify individual shoppers. Authorities were reviewing surveillance video.

Kimberly Cribbs, who witnessed the stampede, said shoppers were acting like "savages." "When they were saying they had to leave, that an employee got killed, people were yelling 'I've been on line since yesterday morning,'" she said. "They kept shopping."

*Information Courtesy of The Morning Call*



# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Passell - Sociology

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Aaron Passell is a new Sociology professor on campus this year. Currently, he teaches Introduction to Sociology, a seminar on Social Movements, and Research Methods I for Sociology and Anthropology majors. Next semester, He will be teaching Introduction to Sociology, Environmental Sociology, and Urban and Suburban Sociology. The environmental course will cover topics that Dr. Passell believes are essential for anyone concerned with sustainability. Urban and suburban studies are his primary areas of research and he is eager to engage students in conversations about the processes that give rise to the places they come from.

He completed his undergraduate studies in French and Sociology at Wesleyan University in CT. and went on to complete his graduate studies in Sociology at New York University in NY. Dr. Passell studied French because of his love of the language and interest stemming from a semester in Paris.

Sociology, however, was new to him in college and also really intriguing to him. "I liked the sense that you could explore the issues that lay beneath or behind social policy in a way that might allow you develop better, more equitable policy approaches. When I returned to graduate school, five years after college, what drove me was something about social relations at an even deeper level - the sense that the role of material things in social life was important and inadequately examined" explained Dr. Passell explained.

The topic of the built environment of cities and suburbs and how it comes to be as it is, is a central topic in his research. He

said, "This is what's great about sociology to me is the sense that it helps you to puzzle out or take apart the most common facts in our everyday lives, things that we take for granted."

For the upcoming year Dr. Passell has research on suburban development that he is in the process of publishing in addition to a new project on existing housing, gentrification, and sustainability that he would like to get off the ground. Before coming to the College he taught as a graduate student at NYU and part-time at George Washington University in DC. He is going to focus on working closely with students because that is the aspect of a small, liberal arts college that he really enjoys.

Dr. Passell presently lives in Allentown, north-west of the College. He said, "I'm a little surprised to like Allentown as much as I do. I live in the neighborhood north and west of the College, but I really like to get downtown when I can. As you might guess from my work, I like cities and buildings in particular as a physical record of their history. So I walk or bike around the city whenever I get the chance."

His favorite thing about the College is the students. He is excited because he loves to enthusiastically talk about Sociology and is pleased that he has students in each of his classes that also like to talk about Sociology both in and out of class.

In his spare time Dr. Passell likes to play basketball, go biking with his son and go hiking whenever he gets the chance. He also loves to read fiction but unfortunately does not have much time to do so.

Lastly, the College wishes to welcome Dr. Passell and looks forward to his further contributions to the College community.

## Dr. Holowchak - Philosophy

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Mark Holowchak is new to the College this semester as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy. He is currently teaching two sections of Individuals and Society and a section of Political Philosophy. Next semester, he will offer Individuals and Society again in addition to Environmental Philosophy, Critical Thinking, and Business Ethics.

Dr. Holowchak was an undergraduate at Wayne State University. He went on to receive his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh, where he was a part of the University's joint program of Philosophy, History and Philosophy of Science, and Classics. His focus was in ancient philosophy and science. His studies offered him a range of knowledge as they included numerous philosophers such as Aristotle and Plato as well as examinations of skepticism, ancient medicine, and meta-physics. In addition, he studied the Greek and Latin languages.

Prior to attaining his teaching position here at the College, Dr. Holowchak taught at numerous other colleges and universities, including the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Kutztown University, and Ohio University.

One of Dr. Holowchak's favorite things about the College is the intimacy of the teaching environment. He enjoys the size of his three small classes, each of which were capped with a student limit, and believes it helps to promote a close-knit setting and more class interaction. In discussing what he likes about the College, Dr. Holowchak also acknowledged his appreciation for the overall brightness of his students.

He currently lives in Alburdis, a PA town about eleven miles west of Allentown, in what he describes as "a cozy Victorian-era home with about an acre of land and a creek in the yard." He lives with his wife Angela, her sister, Maria, and seven "impossible" cats.

In his spare time, Dr. Holowchak enjoys a range of activities, including biking, gardening, and strength training. He is proud of his title as former Michigan powerlifting champion. He also enjoys polite conversation and great movies and books, but above all he has a passion for writing.

This becomes highly apparent in viewing his career accomplishments. Dr. Holowchak has published ten books since 2001 in addition to nearly forty peer-reviewed articles. The College has acknowledged many of these accomplishments, including the publication of one of his most recent books, entitled "The Stoics: A Guide for the Perplexed" which was released this year.

The College also extended its congratulations to Dr. Holowchak on his presentation of a paper entitled "Equipping Oneself for the Whole of Life: Stoic Sagacity as Peak Performance," which he read at the Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Society for the Study of Islamic Philosophy and Science conference at New York's Fordham University.

After his many accomplishments and publications, Dr. Holowchak looks forward to taking a bit of a break in the upcoming academic year. He said smilingly that he plans to "write and read less and watch more SpongeBob."

The College extends a warm welcome to Dr. Holowchak and wishes him continued success during his time as a part of the College community.

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

Email

theweeklynews@gmail.com



# Admissions Success

Although the twin challenges of a contracting market and a declining economy are weighing on collegiate admissions operations this fall, interest in Muhlenberg remains strong. Applications for fall 2009 are running close to last year's record pace, and Early Decision application volume also has remained very close to last year's totals. Campus visitor volume is actually slightly ahead of last year, another signal of ongoing interest in Muhlenberg by prospective students and parents.

## Board of Trustees

During its October meeting the College's board welcomed five new Trustees (Eric Berg '78, Barbara Crossette '63, Julie Hamre '72, Jack Ladley '70, and NE Pennsylvania Synod Bishop Sam Zeiser) and seven new members of the Board of Observers (Jerry Galgano '80, Bob Goodliffe '84, Nancy Hoffman P'10, Melissa Morrow Legouri '02, Jill Roberts-Lewis P'09, the Reverend Eric Shafer '72, and Taras Zawarski '76), as well as new Development and Alumni Relations Vice President Connie Harris. The Board reviewed Observer Visiting Committee Reports on the Academic Resource Center and Disability Services, the Trexler Library, and the Accounting, Business, and Economics Department, as well as plans for capital improvements, including: expansion and renovation of Hillel and academic facilities for Sociology and Anthropology; renovation of the TKE House as a rehearsal space for music and theatre; and renovation and expansion of Seegers Union dining facilities and program space.

## Honors

Two important members of our campus community have been honored by the greater Lehigh Valley community recently. Adrian Shanker '09 was recognized at its annual banquet by the Allentown Human Relations Commission on October 14th for his work on behalf of the gay and transgendered community, and Assistant Vice President for Corporate, Foundation, and Government Relations Deb Kipp is being honored by the Eastern Pennsylvania chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals as Fundraising Executive of the Year on November 12th, which is National Philanthropy Day.

*Information Courtesy of Muhlenberg College President Randy Helm*

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## Campus Safety Notes

Nov 17 - Investigative - Interview being conducted near the Village by someone off campus. Harassment complaint filed. Investigation to continue.

Nov 17 - Theft - Report of theft of four tires from vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov 17 - Vandalism - Reports of vandalism on first floor main of Prosser Hall. Several dispensers were ripped off the wall. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov 20 - Social Code Violation - Reports of students throwing trash in neighbors yard on Gordon Street. Students were referred to Judicial.

Nov 20 - Theft - Eight foot table missing from the south side of Scotty Wood Stadium. There are no suspects at this time.

Nov 20 - Disorderly

Conduct - RA was having a problem with a student in Robertson Hall. Student has been referred to Judicial.

Nov 20 - Fire Alarm - Fire alarm sounded in Prosser Hall due to waterflow monitor. The faulty sensor was replaced.

Nov 21 - Noise Complaint - Noise complaint on N 22 Street. The music was turned down and there has been no further incident.

Nov 21 - Fire - APD was called to put out a smoldering bonfire in the library parking lot.

Nov 21 - Found Property - Bag of items found in the Life Sports Center. Bag was given to LSC clerk. It is unknown how long those items were there.

Nov 22 - Investigative - Suspicious persons were heard in the hallway at 439 North 23 Street. They fled

when the reporting party went to check on the noise. There are no suspects at this time. Investigation to continue.

Nov 23 - Noise Complaint - Loud party observed by officers on Liberty Street. There were many students in the residence and kegs were also found. Students referred to Judicial.

Nov 23 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation on third floor Walz with underage consumption of alcohol. Students referred to Judicial.

Nov 23 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation of the second floor of Martin Luther Hall. Student was transported to hospital and referred to Judicial.

Nov 23 - Vandalism - Window smashed at N 22 Street. Incident referred to APD.

Nov 23 - Medical - Sick student on first floor of Brown Hall was transported to the hospital.

Nov 23 - Fire Alarm - Fire alarm sounded on the first floor of 2202 Gordon Street due to cooking.

Nov 24 - Medical - Sick student at 2259 Turner Street was transported to the hospital.

Nov 24 - Theft - Theft of picture from the first floor of Taylor Hall.

Nov 25 - Theft - Report of stolen textbooks from Trumbower.

Nov 25 - Liquor - Alcohol violation, beer trophies, empty and partially empty containers of alcohol found in the room. Referred to the Dean's office.

Nov 26 - Disorderly Conduct - Failure to comply

with college official on the third floor annex of Prosser Hall. Student referred to Judicial.

Nov 26 - Residential Policy - Found knife in room on third floor D of East Hall. Referred to Judicial.

Nov 26 - Found Property - Reported finding a sign in East Hall B, second floor that is the property of the College. The matter has been referred to Judicial.

Nov 30 - Plant Operations - Someone broke a glass window in the Life Sports Center.

Nov 30 - Fire Alarm - Fire alarm sounded at 2251 Liberty Street due to Altmos working on the furnace.

Dec 1 - Vandalism - Vandalism to vehicle - Report of vandalism to a vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"The sole meaning of life is to serve humanity."

- Leo Tolstoy.

## Twilight: It doesn't completely bite

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

After months of anticipation for millions of teenage girls across the country, the *Twilight* movie finally hit theaters on November 21. But did it live up to all the hype? *Twilight* is based on the first book of a four book series by author Stephanie Meyer, aimed at the preteen and teenage girl demographic.

Movies based on popular books tend to face a significant amount of criticism from die-hard fans of the novel. Even so, *Twilight* fans all flocked to thousands of sold-out showings that Friday, many even ordering tickets weeks in advance. The film's opening weekend was extremely successful, bringing in \$70.5 million.

*Twilight* was a mildly entertaining adaptation of its written counterpart. The story, of a teenage girl who falls in love with a vampire, is told from the point of view of its heroine: the quiet, often cynical Bella Swan.

Bella moves from her home in warm, sunny Arizona to live with her father in the cold, small town of Forks,

Washington. While attempting to adjust to her new surroundings, Bella meets alluring and mysterious classmate Edward Cullen and quickly falls in love with him. She soon realizes that he is a vampire, who lives among humans with his "family" (also vampires) in Forks.

Edward and Bella remain in love despite this obstacle, leading to a number of complications that make for an exciting story. Bella deals with family friends who view Edward as a danger to her, as well as trying to maintain a relationship with her distant father.

The fairly unknown Kristen Stewart plays Bella, and does a decent job of bringing the character to life. Her portrayal is not perfect, however, as Bella does not come off as a very likeable character.

Although Bella was not written as the most heart-warming of characters, Stewart's depiction causes her to be downright unlikeable. And that is an unfortunate trait for the protagonist of a film.

British actor Robert Pattinson stars as the dazzling vampire and leading man Edward Cullen. Pattinson, to say the least, is not quite up to snuff.

For a character who is supposed to speak eloquently and with a classic tone, Pattinson often slurs his words, once almost slipping out of his faux-American accent.

On top of this, Pattinson's acting is flat, and at times almost laughable. The humor may be

partially due to many of Edward's over-the-top, nauseatingly romantic lines, but Pattinson's lack of proper charisma must be held at least partially responsible.

Although *Twilight* is based off of a book, a feature-length film must be able

to stand on its own. Viewers should not need any previous knowledge of the story in order for a movie to make sense. In this regard, the plot of the movie is clearly presented and easy to follow.

The portrayal of Bella and Edward's relationship, however, is extremely unrealistic and hard to believe. The two start out as near perfect strangers, and after having two short scenes of dialogue are suddenly deeply in love with each other. In order to believe the intensity of this romantic relationship, which is the main theme of the story, there needed to be a build-up. Unfortunately, this is one important feature that the movie failed to represent.

While *Twilight* won't likely win any awards, (with the probable exception of the Teen Choice Awards), it does a fine job presenting its story.

The mediocre acting is almost made up for by the inhumanly attractive cast. And, for fans of the *Twilight* book series, the fact that their favorite characters are being brought to life is enough to make the movie at least mildly enjoyable. And it better be, since there are three sequels on the way.

*"The mediocre acting is almost made up for by the inhumanly attractive cast..."*

## The 2008 Foreign-Language Holiday Party



There was an impressive turnout for the 2008 Foreign-Language Holiday Party. Over 200 students attended the event on a night dominated by sports meetings, academic club elections, and studying for finals. The Martin Luther Underground was decorated with posters in several foreign languages, tables covered in cultural foods, and students singing holiday songs in their respective languages of study. The organizers, Prof. Amelia Moreno, Prof. Pamela Stilin, and Prof. Santa Zanchettin were proud of the turnout saying that it was a "success." Happy Holidays! Felices Fiestas! Joyeuses Fetes! Frohes Fest! Schastlivyh Prazdnikov! Chag Sameach! Buone Feste! Feriae Felices!



PHOTOS BY ADAM BERNSTEIN AND BEN LEVINE



# Facebook Relationships

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Every day after class, as soon as I get back to my dorm room, I drop my books on the ground, take my jacket off and open my computer. Then I do as any college or high school student would do; I check my Facebook.

Between checking notifications and responding to messages, there is one thing I love to do. I always make sure to look through the News Feed for that bright red heart or broken heart, the one that indicates a relationship status change.

On a person's Facebook alongside information such as hometown, religion, political views, lays relationship status. One can choose between "single," "in a relationship," "in an open relationship," "engaged," "married," and my personal favorite, "it's complicated." It's even possible to link two Facebook accounts on a page so that everyone knows just who the no-longer-so-mysterious other is.

The relationship status option isn't always updated completely honestly, how-

ever. It's not rare for one to see two girls listed as married or in a relationship directly above where it says "Interested In Men". Some reasons people do this are to show just how close they are to another person.

Also, they may just want to send a message that they are not looking for a relationship. The "it's complicated" option is also rarely used genuinely. This is probably because when things really are complicated, people don't want to explain their situation to every prying eye.

Besides these options, I've even seen a friend of mine link their Facebook to a fictional character. With so many reasons to lie about or hide one's relationship status, it's not always accurate to make assumptions based off of Facebook. The fact is, you never know.

Despite a variety of privacy controls, it seems nearly impossible to change one's relationship status without the entire world knowing.

Within ten minutes or

so, it's not uncommon for someone to comment on the relationship change with an oh-so-subtle "what?" or "who is it?!" Even though it's possible to remove the change from one's own Wall, it always finds its way into everyone else's News Feed. No matter what, it seems like everyone finds out.

As -annoying as it is for me to be bombarded with questions when I change my own relationship status, I don't deny how delighted I am to read about other people's.

Some of the less intriguing status changes include removing the label "single", two friends no longer being in a relationship, and the addition of "it's complicated" to someone's page.

When I read, though, about two people either linking or unlinking their Facebooks, I get very interested and immediately click on one of their pages. It's incredibly interesting to know who broke up with who or how old a new girlfriend is.

There are a lot of reasons why I, and other people, like to see everyone else's relationship status changes. It's so thrilling because I can often find out information that wouldn't be shared with me otherwise.

It's interesting to learn about people with whom I've never spoken to but are my Facebook friend. Also, I can decide whether or not I think a relationship will work. I can think "I told you so!" when two people break up that I thought weren't good together.

Or I can be intrigued by people who I would have never thought of together. It's incredibly interesting to know details about other people from Facebook.

Linking your Facebook accounts when you've recently entered a relationship with someone can sometimes be a risky move if you like privacy.

In most cases, it either means that the relationship has a lot of hope to last or that one of the people in the relationship takes his/her Facebook profile



SEE LOVE | PAGE 11

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK: WHAT WAS THE BEST PART OF THANKSGIVING?



"Seeing my family and friends."  
- Lindsey Dutton, '12



"My mom's sweet potatoes."  
- Allison Hourani, '12



"Pumpkin pie and how you can have it three times in a row."  
- Kelly Frazee, '11



"The SC football game was awesome, but so was my weekend partying there."  
- Lindsay Styler, '12



"Being at home and hanging out with my sister."  
- Lauren Blatt, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Australia

Fri. 3:15, 7:00, 10:20  
Sat. 3:15, 7:00, 10:20  
Sun. 3:15, 7:00, 10:20

### Four Christmases

Fri. 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
Sat. 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
Sun. 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

### Quantum of Solace

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

### Bolt

Fri. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

### Punisher: War Zone

Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

### Twilight

Fri. 4:20, 7:50, 10:30  
Sat. 4:20, 7:50, 10:30  
Sun. 4:20, 7:50, 10:30

### Transporter 3

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:25  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:25  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:25



# The ten best albums of 2008

By Alex Nagorski  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

## 10. The Ting Tings, *We Started Nothing*

By far the best party album of the year, The Ting Tings' debut is an upbeat collection of eclectic indie rock that provides the formula for a night of crazy dancing. The sharply punctuated vocals and thumping bass lines makes it easy to hear this record as the soundtrack to any art house film where the protagonist teenage girl discovers drugs, sex, and nightclubs. It is a feel good album with intelligent pop lyrics and a unique sound that can please both mainstream radio and hipsters alike. Must have track: "Great DJ."

## 9. Madita, *Too*

One of the most unique artists in today's music scene, Madita's sophomore album far surpasses her already groundbreaking self-titled debut. Her originality comes in the form of genre fusing, as *Too* may be the first album to successfully accomplish the morphing of electronica and jazz. Think Imogen Heap meets Fiona Apple, and you have Madita's sensual, tantalizing, and calming piano and synthesizer duets. With *Too*, Madita has strung together two completely genres to create a unique, refreshing, and addictive sound that will make this record a constant in your car's CD changer. Must have track: "Because."

## 8. Sia, *Some People Have Real Problems*

For her third album, Australian folk singer Sia sticks to her soothing, sensual, and melodic signature, yet incorporates layers of new electronic elements to create a brand new more evolved sound. Hands down her most raw and emotional album to date, *Some People Have Real Problems* explores life's many tribulations, ranging from heartbreak to frustration to pain to sorrow. Do not be fooled, however, this album is far from a whiny cry for help. Instead, it proves Sia's remarkable songwriting talent as it puts us on an emotional rollercoaster navigating us in feeling and understanding the vari-

ous suffering life provides us along our journeys. Must have track: "Academia (featuring Beck)"

## 7. Ida Maria, *Fortress Round My Heart*

If Regina Spektor were ever to undergo an identity crisis and decide she was a full blown out rock star then she would be Ida Maria. On her debut album, Maria serves as a fresh dish of sass, honesty, sarcasm, sexuality, and rock and roll. Her singer/songwriter vocals make it seem like she should be playing an acoustic guitar at Lillith Fair opening up for Ani DiFranco, however, her heavy percussion and electric guitar instrumentation makes *Fortress Round My Heart* sound like a collaboration record between Nirvana and Liz Phair. With intelligent lyrics that can be both vulnerable and abrasive, Maria has created a truly memorable and edgy debut that will keep her on the music map for years to come. Must have track: "I Like You So Much Better When You're Naked."

## 6. Jack's Mannequin, *The Glass Passenger*

Andrew McMahon's return to the music industry after taking a medical hiatus for a few years comes in the form of his second solo album since his days as lead singer of Something Corporate. Incorporating vintage California piano-rock elements that made him a superstar of the Warped Tour generation in the first place, *The Glass Passenger* is arguably Andrew's finest songwriting to date. Adding a full band behind his trademark god-like piano playing creates an epic musical experience that could fill and inspire stadiums full of people. Must have track: "Swim."

## 5. Meiko, *Meiko*

The re-issue of Meiko's self-titled debut serves as a reminder that a pretty voice alongside gorgeous string arrangements can be the perfect accompaniment to a relaxing day. Her voice is both melancholy and soothing, creating an aura of zen that makes it impossible to not want to close your eyes and absorb all the sounds floating out of your

speakers. After a successful stint on the Hotel Café Tour and appearing as a guest vocalist on albums by artists such as Joshua Radin and AM, Meiko re-recorded her album as it sought distribution by a major record label (in 2007, she self released it). The end result is a beautiful, floral-like compilation of fantastic songwriting being sung by a phenomenal artist that reinstates how alive and thriving folk music really is. Must have track: "Under My Bed."

## 4. Jay Brannan, *Goddamned*

Creating a name for himself through his countless YouTube videos and self-released demo EP, Jay Brannan's debut full length record has made him a household name in the Lower Village art scene of Manhattan. Never afraid of exposing too much, Brannan's in-your-face songs and flawless tenor voice have quickly transformed him into an icon in the gay community as an honest and refreshing performer. He sings truths that you're too afraid to ever say out loud but secretly relate to. Dealing with everything from love and sex to politics and religion, *Goddamned* is not just any piece of art, but is a door to someone's mind and soul. Must have track: "Half Boyfriend."

## 3. The Veronicas, *Hook Me Up*

Twenty-three-year-old twins Lisa and Jess Origlassio make up this dynamic pop duo that at home in Australia are as huge as Beyonce is in the United States. For their sophomore release, the girls evolved their sound from simple Kelly Clarkson-esque pop/rock to a more dance floor influenced album with not a single bad track. Heavily inspired by the L.A. electronica scene they immersed themselves in for the past year, the record draws on their previous sound and enhances it by adding disco elements and synthesizers. The album serves its purpose by still being rock heavy and pleasing the old fans, while using new musical influences to draw in new ones. Already having five successful hits from the record in Australia, their debut American single "Untouched" has

finally began garnering Top 40 airplay, and it'll only be a matter of time before The Veronicas become a global pop phenomenon. Must have track: "Revenge Is Sweeter (Than You Ever Were)"

## 2. She & Him, *Volume One*

Although released in 2008, the debut collaboration between acclaimed singer/songwriter M. Ward and actress Zooey Deschanel sounds like it could be your parents' best kept secret record from the '60s. Drawing on various influences, *Volume One* sounds like what Bob Dylan's early recordings may have sounded like if he were a woman. From original songs to covers of The Beatles and The Miracles, this is more than just a stellar first record but a gateway to becoming underground superstars. The conclusion of the album has listeners begging for the 2009 release of *Volume Two*, as it may just be the sequel to one of the absolute best indie/folk albums of the decade. Must have track: "Why Do You Let Me Stay Here?"

## 1. Adele, *19*

With her sultry, mysterious, seductive and sometimes even haunting vocals, Adele has become the United Kingdom's best musical import. Paying homage to legends such as Ella Fitzgerald, Adele's debut record is a compilation of the finest quality jazz, with just a hint of pop mixed in. Upon listening to the album it is hard to believe that she is only 19 and is not in fact a classically trained middle-aged woman who has been performing at upscale blues clubs her entire life. Sometimes accompanied by a full orchestra and sometimes backed by nothing more than an acoustic guitar or a piano, the track listing is entirely unpredictable as each song offers something fresh and new to the mix. Written completely by herself, *19* is the album Amy Winehouse dreams of being able to record, and establishes Adele as a powerful musical force not to be taken lightly. Must have track: "Hometown Glory."

The 2008 season sure had its hits, lets hope for the same in 2009.

## LOVE | FROM PAGE 10

very seriously. If the relationship ends abruptly or badly and everyone finds out about it through Facebook, it can be embarrassing for both of the people, and most people like to make sure this doesn't happen.

It varies, though, from couple to couple just how much information they list on Facebook. Some couples

opt to wait before linking themselves on Facebook, too.

I've witnessed a couple stay together for five months before making it "Facebook official". I also know a couple who've been together for over a year and have to this day not put up any information under the relationship status option.

Sometimes, though, immediately following an official entry into a relationship, the other person will

request to link Facebooks as soon as they have a chance.

So many things can be learned from Facebook, and from new couples forming to old couples breaking up there is always appeal to investigate relationship status changes.

Not all of it can be believed, but often Facebook reveals intimate details of people's lives which they would not otherwise share with you.

As easily, though, as you can find out relationship information about other people, they can find out information about your relationship status. It's important to realize that if you update your relationship status, everyone will find out, even people you never talk to.

Nevertheless, Facebook is the ultimate tool for learning details about people's personal lives, like it or not.



Look what's blowing on campus?

Opening **Spring '09**  
Life Sports Center

Ready to mix things up?

Opening **Spring '09**  
Life Sports Center

## This Week on Campus

Friday Dec. 5

Last Day of Classes

Student Performers

- 9:30 pm - 1:00 am in Seegers Red Door
- 9:30 pm - 10:30 pm
  - Adam Schett and Bobby Weir
- 10:30 pm - 11:00 pm
  - Sareve and Jasmine: Back together again for the first time
- 11:00 pm - 1:00 am
  - Hip-hop collective
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne Hill at x3657 for more information

Saturday Dec. 6

Student Performers

- 9:00 pm - 12:00 am in Seegers Red Door
- 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm
  - The Jim Lehrer News Hour
- 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm
  - Four Dollar Fedora
- 11:00 pm - 12:00 am
  - Naked by the Seashore
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne Hill at x3657 for more information

Sunday Dec. 7

Free Massage Before Finals

- 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm in Seegers Upper Lobby
- Enjoy a free 10 minute massage
- Contact Leanne Hill at x3657 for more information

The Dark Knight

- 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm in Seegers Red Door
- Come watch The Dark Knight sponsored by MAC
- Free admission
- Contact Leanne Hill at x3657 for more information

Monday Dec. 8

Performance Day

Midnight Study Break

- 11:30 pm - 1:00 am in the Trexler Library
- Take a break from studying and enjoy snacks and coffee
- Hosted by the Senior Class Connections Campaign and Student Activities
- Free admission
- Contact Christi Razzi at x3748 for more information

Tuesday Dec. 9 - Saturday Dec. 13

Final Examinations

Saturday Dec. 13

Mid-Year Break

- Begins at the conclusion of final examinations
- Regular schedule resumes on Monday Jan. 12, 2009

Good luck on all of your final exams and enjoy your winter break!

# Derick Brassard: How Far Will He Go?

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Could anyone truly imagine that Derick Brassard would be performing as well as he is right now?

"A star in the making, Brassard needs to get a regular shot on a scoring line to get to the top level. In the meantime, he is good enough for regular duty." According to The Hockey News Ultimate Fantasy Pool Guide 2008-2009.

He is already a star, just 18 games into his first full NHL season. He is second on the team behind Rick Nash in goals with eight, while he leads the Columbus Blue Jackets with 17 points. Not only is he doing well offensively, he is playing well in the defensive zone, as his plus-9 rating reflects.

That's not all. He has the best shooting percentage among Blue Jackets that have played at least five games at 25%. (Nikita Filatov has one goal on two shots, but has only played in four games this season). No wonder the scouts tell him he needs to shoot more.

After Brassard was drafted sixth overall by Columbus in the 2006 NHL Entry Draft, Sportsnet.ca explained his play. They said that he "excels at both ends of the ice, and is a determined athlete. [He] skates well and possesses plenty of scoring instincts."

They also went on to say that he has to improve on a few things, including the fact that he has to "learn to shoot more" to mix things up a bit when going in on an NHL defenseman. He was also told that at 6'1 and 190 pounds, he needed to "add more strength to fully maximize his vast potential."

Derick Brassard was a gem in major juniors, scoring 218 points in 151 career QMJHL games, a league not known so much for high scoring.

In addition to those numbers he also had an astonishing 141 penalty minutes in his major junior career. He was on the tops of many people's lists, but ultimately fell to number six, mainly because of his size, and the presence of other great prospects, including Erik Johnson, Phil Kessel, Nicklas Backstrom, and others.

Then Columbus senior scout Don Boyd was apparently in love with Brassard when he first saw this kid play, as he called his General Manager Doug MacLean, saying, "I just saw Joe Sakic."

According to the Columbus War Room, Brassard had speed, creativity, hands, and great hockey sense. They too, however, were worried about the size of young Derick, at about 170 pounds at the time.

Kjell Larsson, Columbus' then European scout, did not think that he was an NHL-ready player, but that he could be. "He's not a goal scorer now-he's in the elite league, playing against pros. But a goal scorer, I think he will become that."

And a goal scorer he did become.

(The source for the previous paragraph was Gare Joyce's book, **Future Greats and Heartbreaks**).

The 21-year old wonder was playing in Drummondville in late 2006 when he was assigned by the Columbus Blue Jackets to the NHL team. While there, he managed a mere two points in 17 games.

He was sent down to the AHL to Syracuse, where he proceeded to score 51 points in 42 games. He then spent the offseason training in Columbus in order to make the NHL team out of training camp, which he did.

"[The Blue Jackets] are weak at center...rookie Derick Brassard needs time to develop" -THN Pool Guide.

Now, he is being paired with Kristian Huselius and Nash on the top line for the Blue Jackets, as he continues to average a point per game. He indeed has the makings of a star; he is already one in Columbus. It is only a matter of time before he becomes known as a star in the NHL.

Is this season a one-year wonder? Perhaps. Will he even continue to score points on a nightly basis? Maybe not.

But in the last ten games, he has 13 points. After starting off the season with a "mere" six points in eight games, Brassard is hot. If he continues to get the playing time he has received from coach Ken Hitchcock, and if he continues to play with superstar Rick Nash, he will most likely continue to score at this pace, and perhaps increase his production.

The skies are limitless for Brassard. We have seen players like Thomas Vanek have a monstrous season, and then go on to drop down the stat sheet. Or, we have players like Sidney Crosby and Alexander Ovechkin who pop into the league and almost easily score hundreds of points. Which one will he be?

There are many players who seem to be having breakout seasons in the NHL this year, including Derick Brassard, Alexander Semin, Devin Setoguchi, and JP Dumont. Will all of these players continue to be stars in the National Hockey League? Who knows.

But I'll bet my money that Derick Brassard is going to be a perennial star in the NHL for years to come.

## Sports Schedule

### Women's Basketball

Thurs., Dec. 4 at Swarthmore, 7:00

Sat., Dec. 6 at Franklin and Marshall, 2:00

### Men's Basketball

Sat., Dec. 6 at Franklin and Marshall, 4:00

### Wrestling

Fri., Dec. 5 at Messiah Petrofes Invitational

Sat., Dec. 6 at Messiah Petrofes Invitational


Tomorrow is the last day to register for...

Attention Seniors!!!

**"Reality MC"**

A fun three day weekend  
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FOR SENIORS ONLY

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 ⇒ The Cooking Essentials  
 ⇒ Capitalizing on Your Personal Type in Academics, Leadership, Relationships  
 ⇒ Open Forum Discussion  
 ⇒ Evening Cook-Off

Saturday Program Events:  
 ⇒ W4401HMO: Translating Day 1 at Work  
 ⇒ Networking  
 ⇒ Impress Your Supervisor At Dinner  
 ⇒ Love Your \$\$\$  
 ⇒ Open Forum Discussion  
 ⇒ Alumni Reception

Sunday Program Events:  
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Registration Deadline is December 5



# A disappointing tournament loss wraps up a respectable season

By Daniel Wayne  
WEEKLY SPORTS EDITOR

After making it through the regular season with nine wins and just one loss, the gridiron Mules came away with a Centennial Conference Championship and a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Head Coach Mike Donnelly's squad was matched up with the Wesley College Wolverine in the first round. This is the same Wesley team that eliminated the Mules from last year's tournament in the second round.

Going into the game, 'Berg was coming off a loss to Moravian and the Wolverines were riding high on an eight game winning streak. Over the season, Wesley's offense averaged a little more than 39 points a game, while the Mules averaged 5 points less, with a little less than 34 per game.

The first half of the game was a hard fought battle. After the teams exchanged missed field goals, the Wolverines got on the scoreboard first

with a touchdown that was the result of back-to-back 22-yard rushes.

With the ensuing possession, the Mules' offense halted with 39 seconds left and was forced to turn the ball over. Now with the ball, Wesley quickly drove down field and with the final play of the half, they scored a touchdown on a 45-yard Hail Mary pass.

At the start the second half, with the score 13-0, the Wolverines quickly scored again with a four play drive. Now up by 20, Wesley rolled easily to victory.

The Mules were unable to get on the board against the Wolverine defense. Senior quarterback Eric Santagato threw for 129 yards and ran for 61 yards on the day. Senior William Moates and sophomore Mark Accomando both recorded 8 tackles and held the Wolverines to 19 fewer points than their game average.



Above: Senior William Moates constantly penetrated the Wesley line in an effort to slow the Wolverine's offense; Top right: Junior Cameron Ahouse recorded 4 tackles in the game and played part in stopping Wesley in critical 3rd down situations; Bottom right: Senior running back John DeLuca.

# DeLuca and Floyd named Academic All-Americans

By Joshua Bailey  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Senior running back John DeLuca and junior defensive end Jake Floyd were named to the ESPN Academic All-American second team by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

To be eligible for the prestigious team, an athlete must play a key role for a team and maintain a grade point average of 3.30 or better.

DeLuca, an accounting major, rushed for over 100 yards ten times this year. Twice, he went over 200 yards. He finished his college career with 4,041 rushing yards, making him Muhlenberg's second all-time leading rusher and the Centennial Conference's sixth leading rusher of all-time.

Floyd, a finance major, thrived in his first full year of starting for the Mules' staunch defense. He recorded twenty four tackles including three sacks and ten tackles for losses. Floyd also double minored in political science and entrepreneurial studies. He, again, figures to be an important player for next year's team.

With this nomination, DeLuca became only the third student-athlete in Muhlenberg history to be named an All-American in one sport and an Academic All-American in another. Last year DeLuca was named an All-American Lacrosse player.

DeLuca and Floyd became the eleventh and twelfth Muhlenberg Football players named to the Academic All-American team.



The Muhlenberg Football Academic All-Americans: John DeLuca (left) and Jake Floyd (right).

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

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## S P O R T S

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# Our Tournament: Mules Sweep Scotty Wood

By Matt Katz

WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

"Our Game Our House Our Court Your Loss" was the slogan for the 2008 Scotty Wood Tournament, perhaps next year the slogan should include "Our Tournament" as well. For the fourth time, and the first since 2005, the Muhlenberg Men and Women's Basketball Teams both won the Scotty Wood championships. Both Mule teams were impressive in their opening games of the year, and both beat a high-quality opponent en route to their 1st place finishes.

The roads to the title for the men and women's teams could not have been more different. In their opening game, the women breezed past a weak squad from St. Elizabeth, while the men's team struggled with a team from Hunter College. Then in the finals, the men's team dominated a strong team from Marymount, while the women won a hard fought contest against an impressive Williams Patterson squad.

Leading the way for the women's team was tournament MVP senior Lauren Boyle. In the first round game against St. Elizabeth, Boyle scored 14 points in only 17 minutes of action. The Mules were able to play 14 players and 12 players scored, including an impressive foursome of freshman: Alexandra Chili, Kimberly Mui, Kathleen Naddaff and Katy Rossino. The Mules opened up an early 12-2 lead, and stretched it to as many as 40, before they settled for a 73-36 victory.

Following the women's dominant victory, the men took the court for a dogfight with an undersized team from Hunter College. Against a smaller but scrappy squad, the Mules struggled early with the speed of the Hawks, as Hunter jumped out to an early 10-6 lead. But by halftime, the Mules took the lead by 2. After Hunter regained the lead for the final time in the early parts of the second half, the Mules finally got moving. Back-to-back momentous 3-pointers by junior Ryan Foster, who finished with a team-high 19 points, combined with a few defensive stops and two lay-ups by senior Tim Murray produced a 10-0 run by the Mules, which ended any hopes of a Hunter upset. From

that point on, the Mules took advantage of their height inside, and the Mule big men dominated the paint. Junior Pete Barnes was dominant, scoring 18 points on 9-13 shooting, and added 14 rebounds. Junior Obi Nwizugo added 13 points, and freshman Spencer Liddic contributed 8 points and 9 rebounds in his first collegiate game. The Mules out rebounded the Hawks to the tune of a 54-30 advantage; but shot only 3-17 from behind the arc.

In the men's final, the Mules learned from their slow start against Hunter, and came out with all cylinders firing against a big and athletics Marymount squad. The Mules jumped all over Saints, with an 11-0 run to start the game. The Mules won by 21 points, 70-49, and the win was all about defense. The Mules controlled the paint inside, and held the Marymount shooters to 2-16 from behind the arc, as the Mules lead never shrunk to single digits in the second half. Offensively, junior Brian Frankoski led a balanced attack with 12 points, while sophomore Evan Tozer contributed 10 points off the bench. Barnes had his second solid game of the tournament, as his finished with 9 points, 9 rebounds, and 3 blocks to earn MVP honors. Nwizugbo was also named to the all-tournament team.

Prior to the men's game, the women's team topped William Patterson in an exciting game to capture their fifth Scotty Wood title in six years. Unlike the men's team, the women's team came out slowly and had to fight their way back. Trailing 11-4 after four minutes of play, the Mules turned up the defensive intensity, holding William Patterson to only 25% shooting after the first few minutes of the game. The Mules led 41-32 at halftime, and never looked back in the second half. Boyle finished with 19 points and 9 rebounds, and sophomore Kelly McKeon earned all-tournament honors with her 17 point, 11 rebound, and 6 assist performance. Off the bench, the Mules received a big boost from freshman Alexandra Chili, who added 9 points, as well as junior Maiza. Mock, who also scored 9 on only 5 field goal attempts.



Left: Junior center Peter Barnes crushed Hunter from above with two blocks and two huge dunks; Right: The Mules celebrate with the Scotty Wood Tournament trophy.



# Reality MC a big success

By Rachel Majkszak and Rebecca Unger  
ASST. OP/ED EDITOR AND COPY EDITOR

While most Muhlenberg students were still at home, soaking up the last few days of winter break, fifty-four seniors returned to the College early to participate in Reality MC. The program is just one part of the Senior Year Experience, which is a program created to help seniors with the transition from college to post-graduation life. The Senior Year Experience is the brain child of President Helm, who felt the College prepared students academically, but thought they could use some additional guidance with some real-life issues.

From this idea, the College created a special task force in Fall 2006, which focused on creating programs to help seniors with the transition to life after college. In Spring 2007, the College held an open forum in which they collected input from students about what they would want the Senior Year Experience to be.

Using the information collected from students, they created the position of Director of the Senior Year Experience to undertake the planning of the program. Shortly thereafter, Dean Shiner Wilson contacted Julie Ambrose about taking on this endeavor. Although this was a new position for her, Julie is no stranger to the College. Julie began her work here in 1993 with the Career Center, where she stayed until 2002. In Oct. 2007, Julie returned to the College as Director of the Senior Year Experience.

One of her largest undertakings was the creation of a "re-orientation" weekend, in which

students would learn some of the skills necessary for their life after leaving the "Muhlenberg bubble." After months of brainstorming with various members of the College community, including Cailin Pachter, Director of the Career Center, Christi Razzi, Assistant Director of the Muhlenberg Fund, Marjorie Hass, Provost, Dean Shiner Wilson, and Dean Green among many others, the idea of Reality MC came about.

Taking into account specific skills that post-graduates need but don't always know right out of college, this three-day weekend featured training sessions, speakers, and opportunities for students to network with Muhlenberg alumni. Specifically, the weekend kicked off on Fri. Jan. 9 with a keynote speech from Muhlenberg alumna Dana Band '93 called "Expand Your Comfort Zone," in which students were encouraged to push themselves to help them reach their goals. Students even wrote their goals down on stars that were later posted in the Seegers lobby. Other notable sessions of the day included cooking tips and a demonstration by Muhlenberg alumnus Lari Luckenbill '06 who created a spinach orzo recipe that was featured on *Semi-Homemade Cooking with Sandra Lee*. The night ended with a cook-off sponsored by Sodexo, during which students competed in teams to create the best course for dinner.

The second day featured seminars presented by Jennifer Besse, a representative from Cap & Compass. Students learned about the nitty gritty

details of entering the workforce such as office paper work, proper etiquette at business dinners, and how to best manage their money. Additionally, students practiced promoting themselves in order to network through a round of "speed-dating," in which they highlighted their career aspirations to their peers. Later that night, they used these newly-acquired skills in order to network at the alumni reception.

On the last day of the program, participants had the choice of attending numerous sessions including "Getting Your Apartment" and "The Least You Need to Know About Taxes." During the wrap-up session, students looked back upon their weekend and showed off the skills they acquired.

Overall, Julie deemed the weekend a success, even after the slight setback of unexpected snow, which proved problematic for many of the alumni who had planned to attend the reception. Additionally, the reception, which was originally planned to occur at the Allentown Art Museum, was relocated to the Red Door.

Other than these unavoidable problems, Julie feels that those who attended had opportunities to learn and develop new skills. According to her, "The most successful thing I observed was watching students' transformation throughout the weekend." She hopes those students that attended this year will spread the word about the weekend to make the event an even bigger success next year.

*"The Senior Year Experience... is a program created to help seniors with the transition from college to post-graduation life."*

## The College earns top rankings

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The beginning of a new calendar year is always known to bring about new things. This year, a new list of top private liberal arts colleges across the United States has brought the College and its popularity to new heights. This "Best Value" list was compiled by Kiplinger's, a widely trusted organization whose views on and discussions of personal finances and business forecasts have lead the business world for the past eight decades. The organization produces a magazine as well as the newsletter "The Kiplinger Letter," which has been in publication since 1923, making it the nation's longest-running newsletter.

Kiplinger's picked its top private institutions from data on 600 private schools from Peterson's Company's database of Colleges and Universities. This data, along with the organization's own reports, allowed them to study the schools based on numerous criteria. These included admission rates, SAT and ACT scores, student-faculty ratio, four year/five year graduation rate, total costs, costs after need-based aid, aid from grants, cost after non-need based aid, and average amount of student debt at graduation.

Overall, Kiplinger's focused on academic quality and affordability, especially in light of the current state of the economy. However, the difficult economic times did not overshadow the importance of quality in the schools; "academic quality" accounted for two-thirds of the total evaluation of each institution. Early this month, Kiplinger's released their results of this detailed evaluation. The results were split into two categories; The Best 50 Values in Private Universities and The Best 50 Values in Liberal Arts Colleges. The College was ranked number 41 out of the top 50 in the Liberal Arts category, and was one of seven Pennsylvania schools on the list, one of which, Swathmore College, was ranked at number 2.

Kiplinger's web-site presents the exact data compiled for the College from the categories of study that placed it in the top 50. The site reveals that the College has an impressive 12-to-1 student to teacher ratio, as well as an 85 percent rate of aid from grants.

The College is proud to have earned a "Best Value" title from such a highly-trusted organization, which will surely only increase the College's already growing popularity.



THE MUHLENBERG  
WEEKLY

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Editor-in-Chief

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Managing Editor

## Yes we (still) can!

Tuesday was one for the history books as the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama, the first African American man to take the oath of office, was sworn in on the steps of the Captiol Building at noon. It was a day many had waited for and it was a dream come true for even more. We saw Obama speak after taking his oath, and we were impressed by his articulate and fierce ambitions. We sincerely hope he can accomplish all that he claims is possible, because right now the country believes he can, and it would be a tragedy to watch him fail.

We know he is politically competent; we were covering the entire election as it unfolded, along with every other media outlet in the country, but we wonder why the media, on this most important day, did not acknowledge that what appeared to be the distant future is now upon us. Obama as president is no longer an idea; it is a reality. We noted with annoyance that the media was choosing to focus on the afterparty: the balls, the concerts, the celebrations. We wonder if they were even listening to Obama speak as he stressed the need to focus on change now, not down the road.

No, the media seemed much too caught up in what song Beyonce was going to sing for the President and First Lady's dance ("At Last" we found out) and how the Obama daughters are now going to be the trend-setters for little girls across the country. Sasha's favorite toy makes headlines, because after all, it is now the hot item.

We could not believe that was the topic of choice. A plush toy was the focal point, overshadowing the policies, appointments, and other newsworthy stories. Obama himself said that it is the people who will make sure his policies come to life as they persist and create the lives they deserve, and we whole heartedly agree with that. We also believe that the media needs to shift its attitude to reflect the seriousness of the times. It needs to portray the President and his family in a light focused on policies and progress, not fashion and trends.

Obama and his administration are no longer concepts. The first African American president has been sworn in. Despite this, things haven't changed just because he's moving into the White House, so the spotlight needs to stay on Obama and what he can, and hopefully will, accomplish.

# A Phoenix Rising

By Sean Heron  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

It's an all too familiar story. Pain, frustration, despair - the daily diet, if you will, for anyone bold enough to don a green jersey on Sunday

in support of the beloved Philadelphia Eagles.

Sunday afternoon saw the fourth time the Andy Reid administration and its Eagles lost the NFC championship game. After a dismal first half the Eagles, true to their name, soared. Rallying behind Donovan McNabb, the boys in green rallied to take a 25-24 lead. Yet fate, it appeared, lay with the Cards. Kurt Warner, on the ensuing drive, took the Cardinals down the field against the cornerstone of the Eagles team: its defense.

Capping off the drive was a 9 yard touchdown pass from Warner to Hightower. As time expired, the scoreboard exposed Philadelphia to some rather unpleasant math: Arizona 32, Philadelphia 25. And though we've dreamt of reaching the big game, only to bear witness to the dynasty that was New England in 2004, football glory remains elusive, just out of our outstretched reach. Just as a last ditch pass from Donovan McNabb escaped the outstretched reach of wide receiver Kevin Curtis on fourth down. Close, but no cigar.

When the game ended, I instinctively picked up the phone to call my Dad. First, to make sure he hadn't, out of utter despair, taken a leaf out of Sylvia Plath's book and stuck his head in the oven. A comforting "Hello?" on the other line reassured me this was not so. We then moved right to the point: the game. I asked him if he could believe it, if he could fathom another year of unrealized aspirations and broken dreams. He told me of course he could, he explained to me, "Sean, I've been watching that game for my entire life." At 53 years old, he must be well acquainted with "that game."

Then I got to thinking...I began to wonder why I still choose to root for the boys in green, why I don't decide to jump the bandwagon and buy a Kurt Warner or Ben Roethlisberger jersey. After all, both quarterbacks have had impressive years. I guess it's because of my Dad, and how much the team means to him. I began to see the Eagles in a new light, as less of a team capable of winning or losing and more of an idea, as a way to bond with your father, as a reason to give him a call on a Sunday afternoon. And in this light, my confidence was rejuvenated, like a phoenix rising out of the ashes of a season gone by the wayside. And although next year may breed the same result, I'll be there, with my Dad, boldly donning a green jersey on Sunday.

## The case for Israel's defense

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been raging since the end of December. News coverage has depicted both sides as fighting for some greater cause, often times a cause for freedom. It is hard to doubt that both Israel and Hamas are part of opposing causes, but the claim that Hamas is fighting for the principle of freedom in the Middle East is just not true.

John Stuart Mill, the 19th Century philosopher has defined the meaning of real freedom: "The only freedom which deserves the name, is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs." Well, if we apply Mill's thinking to the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict, there is only one freedom fighter, Israel. Let's dig deeper into this current crisis. The "cause" that hurls Qassam rockets and fires mortars into civilian populations and uses its own citizenry as human shields does not quite fit the definition of freedom.

As many of us know, this has been an ongoing conflict with the occasional lull in violence. Since Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza strip three years ago, 6,000 rockets and mortars have hit civilian populations. Israel's withdrawal failed. Despite the presence of a radical terrorist

organization, which has no sense of restraint, there are some who are critical of Israel's right to self-defense (yes, this is a case of self-defense). Those individuals need a trip back to reality. How many attacks justify a statement of force? To what degree does a population need to be terrorized and frightened to condone a response?

It was time for Israel to stand up and end this cowardly, sinister attack on its right to survive. The state of Israel has a right and a responsibility to its people to take the necessary action to prevent any more attacks. Skeptics who question any nation's right to live in freedom should put themselves in our shoes after September 11, 2001. After that day, the United States did not sit back and hope for peace, but took an active stance to halt any future threat. Guess what, it worked!

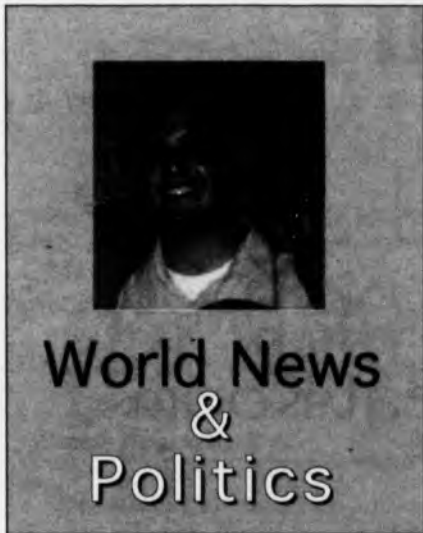
It's time to address the question of proportionality. While on the floor of the House of Representatives, Israel critic Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) likened Israel's response to "a disproportionate, indiscriminate mass violence." Mr. Kucinich's statement is absurd. According to his logic, both sides have to experience the same number of casualties or maybe Israel should launch the same type of rockets all over Gaza. An article in *The Wall Street Journal* applied the

question of proportionality to WWII. If this argument is logical, the article pointed out the disproportionate war against Nazi Germany because "twenty times as many Germans as Americans died in World War II." The fight against Nazism and the Holocaust probably warranted a war without the concern for proportionality. Israel needed to act swiftly to prevent further terrorism. Actually, Hamas has fought unfairly by attacking civilians and by shielding themselves behind their own people.

On January 10, 2009, a protest against the Israeli-Palestinian conflict took place in San Francisco, California. There were signs held up high exclaiming, "Smash the Jewish State," "Hamas and Hezbollah Freedom Fighters," demonstrators were decked out in their Hamas and Palestinian garb, American and Israeli flags were on the ground and engulfed in flames, and there were people calling for "Justice in Palestine." These protesters looked more like a violent mob, but they claim to represent the Hamas freedom fighters. Enough is enough. The world must stand up and support Israel in its struggle for survival. This is more than just an armed conflict, but a lesson for all free people to learn from. Terrorism will not be tolerated and will not be allowed to succeed.



# Big Expectations



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

which means Obama literally has the weight of the world on his shoulders.

Since becoming the President-elect, Obama has looked calm and confident. He quickly assembled his staff and continued to inspire all those who followed him during the election process as he toured the country. Yet, starting this week, words don't mean anything anymore - this country needs action and needs help now.

We all know the problems America is facing. We need jobs, we need healthcare, we need the stock market to improve, and we need the housing foreclosures to stop. We need some type of resolution in Iraq, we need to deal with Iran, overall we need a more stable Middle East, we need to work on relations with Russia and China, and we need to improve our nation's image worldwide. It is a huge amount of issues for one administration to take care of. It is hard to define what the reasonable expectations for Obama will be over the first year of his Presidency. How much time are

people willing to give him to help the middle class, to provide more healthcare, and to improve our country's security?

Obama has talked about his 16 month timetable to begin withdrawing troops from Iraq and begin shifting his focus on the war on terrorism to Afghanistan and Pakistan. He has talked about moving away from the Bush Doctrine of unilateral, pre-emptive military action.

He needs to follow through with his statements if he is going to make any progress in cleaning up the mess he inherited. The House of Representatives just revealed its 825 billion dollar economic recovery plan developed alongside Obama, which is going to need to show some results in an economy which has been a disaster in past months.

One thing Americans can count on is a more transparent, less stubborn adminis-

tration. Perhaps nothing will symbolize this more than the planned immediate closing of Guantanamo Bay. The belief that the President and his administration can do whatever they want because they are the President and his administration will hopefully be leaving with George W. Bush and Dick Cheney as they move their stuff out of their former offices.

Some people believe that Obama is already off to a good start since there is nowhere for America to go but forward. I don't necessarily agree with that premise since things could certainly be worse than they are right now. While George W. Bush's last four years aren't exactly the toughest act to follow, the expectations for Obama to be a savior for this country remain in place. I am not sure anybody could live up to some of the hopes people have for Obama, but hopefully for all our sakes he can come somewhat close. I am pretty confident that he will at least nail that inauguration speech, because we all know the guy can talk.

*It is hard to define what the reasonable expectations for Obama will be over the first year of his Presidency.*

*This is the most powerful nation on the planet, which means Obama literally has the weight of the world on his shoulders.*

Starting with every word that comes out of Barack Obama's mouth during his inauguration speech, the expectations are through the roof for our 44th President. America has problems, which isn't news to anybody who has seen what transpired over the past eight years. People are looking to Obama's youth, energy, and vision to lead America into a much better place than it currently stands. This is the most powerful nation on the planet,

## Our Sacred Flag

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

With the United States embroiled in difficult wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan it is hard to hold back criticisms and opinions. The

public's discontent with President Bush's handling of American foreign policy has been made perfectly clear. Americans ought to make their grievances heard: that is the essence of American democracy. Protests, demonstrations, debates, letters, videos, petitions, and elections are all effective means of voicing concerns and dissatisfactions. Aside from these methods of free speech there is one exception that must be made. The burning of the American flag is not an acceptable way for people to communicate their feelings towards the United States and its government.

The protests against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have provided an inside look into the burning of the American flag. Those who are unhappy with the wars should hold grievances towards the President and the Congress, not our country. Don't forget, it was the Commander in Chief and members of the House and Senate who authorized the war resolutions. If there is anyone to blame, it is the President (who, by the way, has asked Americans to blame him, not the troops and our country). The American flag should not take the heat for one administration's strategy.

The Flag Desecration Amendment was a proposed Constitutional amendment that has been brought before the last six Congresses. This Constitutional amendment is necessary to protect the sanctity of our flag because it would enable the Congress to forbid the "physical desecration of the flag of the United States." There are many claims that burning the American flag is an act of protest. But protest against who? The answer is the United States. Many claim that flag burning is an act of protest against American foreign policy; this is not a valid excuse. The practice of flag burning is an act of hate and violence against the United States of America as a whole. As Americans, we must support our country and the American institution of government. Former Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist described the act as "the equivalent of an inarticulate grunt or roar that, it seems fair to say, is most likely to be indulged, in not to express any particular idea, but to antagonize others."

The American flag is a symbol of our country and what it stands for, a symbol of who we are as Americans and a beacon of hope for others. It is more than a symbol, but a treasure that we must safeguard.

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Serving The Muhlenberg Community Since 1883

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## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 42 Low: 27	High: 35 Low: 15	High: 24 Low: 17

## Relay For Life Kick-off!



Wed. Jan. 28  
7:00 pm  
Great Room

Register Now!  
[www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org)

**Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back.**

### OFF CAMPUS

#### *As jobs dwindle more Americans are joining the military*

As the numbers of jobs across the nation continue to decline, more Americans are being lured by the steady paycheck, benefits and training that come with joining the military.

Pentagon officials said that for the military, the last fiscal year was one of their best, with all active-duty and reserve forces meeting or exceeding their recruitment goals for the first time since 2004, the year that violence in Iraq intensified drastically. The Army exceeded its targets each month for October, November and December so it seems as if the trend is still accelerating.

Recruiters also report that more people are inquiring about joining the military, a trend that could further bolster the ranks. Of the four armed services, the Army has faced the toughest recruiting challenge in recent years because of high casualty rates in Iraq and long deployments overseas.

"When the economy slackens and unemployment rises and jobs become more scarce in civilian society, recruiting is less challenging," said Curtis Gilroy, the director of accession policy for the Department of Defense. Still, according to Gilroy, the economy alone does not account for the military's success in attracting more recruits. The recent decline in violence in Iraq has "also had a positive effect," he said.

Another lure is the new G. I. Bill, which will significantly expand education benefits. Beginning this August, service members who spend at least three years on active duty can attend any public college at government expense or apply the payment toward tuition at a private university.

As casualties in Iraq mounted, the Army began luring new soldiers by increasing signing bonuses for recruits and accepting a greater number of people who had medical and criminal histories, who scored low on entrance exams and who failed to graduate from high school.

The recession has provided a jolt for the Army, which hopes to decrease its roster of less qualified applicants in the coming year.

As a rule, when unemployment rates climb so do military enlistments. "They are saying, 'There are no jobs, no one is hiring,' or if someone is hiring they are not getting enough hours to support their families or themselves," said Sgt. First Class Phillip Lee, 41, the senior recruiter in the Army office in Bridgeport, Conn.

#### *Obama celebrates holiday with community service*

Barack Obama rolled up his sleeves on Monday and helped out at a homeless center, devoting much of his last full day as president-elect paying tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. and to the spirit of volunteerism and public service he said King represented.

Obama began the day visiting wounded troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, his second homage to the military in two days, after a somber visit Sunday to Arlington National Cemetery. Obama was accompanied at Walter Reed by Martin Luther King III.

On Mon, Jan 19, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Obama said, "Today, we celebrate the life of a preacher who, more than forty-five years ago, stood on our national mall in the shadow of Lincoln and shared his dream for our nation. His was a vision that all Americans might share the freedom to make of our lives what we will; that our children might climb higher than we would. Dr. Martin Luther King's was a life lived in loving service to others. As we honor that legacy, it's not a day just to pause and reflect — it's a day to act." He called on ordinary Americans to take part Monday in public service projects across the country and then to make "an ongoing commitment to enriching the lives of others in their communities, their cities and their country."

It was a call to service not unlike that issued by another young American leader, President John F. Kennedy, though perhaps with added resonance because of Obama's experience as a community organizer working with the jobless and needy on the South Side of Chicago.

In late morning, Obama arrived at the Sasha Bruce House, said to be the only emergency shelter for homeless teens in Washington. As he helped to paint the shelter, he chatted easily with the young people, and at one point appeared to bend over to tie a shoe.

The house, in an area of Southeast Washington marked by poverty and high crime rates, seeks to provide homeless teens with a sense of comfort and community; residents stay in furnished apartments, and the center trains them in cooking, cleaning and computer use, and counsels them in finding work and medical help, with an emphasis on cultivating self-reliance.

Separately, Michelle Obama and Vice president-elect Joseph Biden Jr. arrived, amid considerable excitement, to take part in other service projects.

*Information Courtesy of The New York Times*

# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Clark - Physics

By Jen Arner  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Dr. Adam Clark is a new addition to the campus this year. He is currently teaching Cosmology, Physics for Life, a laboratory section of General Physics and is looking forward to continuing these classes in the upcoming academic year.

Dr. Clark completed his undergraduate studies at the New College of Florida, before continuing on to receive his M.A. from the University of Texas, M.S. from the University of Washington and finally earning his Ph.D. in Physics at the University of Washington in 2006.

Before coming to the College, Dr. Clark served as a visiting assistant professor at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon where his research interests included "The String Theory" and "The Particle Theory."

"A good looking job, attractive program and research based curriculum" is what brought Dr. Clark and his wife, who is a professor in the Biology department, to the College. However, he explains that the College is proving to be quite a different experience than that of his undergraduate studies. The New College of Florida, formerly The New College of the University of South Florida, is much smaller, housing a student body of approximately six hundred students.

Also, unlike at the College, students at the New College of Florida

do not receive any grades for their academic work. However, he explains that both colleges, although containing some fundamental differences, emphasize research-based curriculums, something he finds not only attractive but very important.

Dr. Clark and his wife currently live about a mile away from the College and are enjoying getting to know the Allentown area. He comments that both the College and neighboring community have been nothing but friendly and welcoming.

Dr. Clark indulges in a variety of activities in his spare time. He and his wife enjoy the outdoors, hiking and backpacking whenever they have the opportunity.

Additionally, Dr. Clark admits to enjoying some "geeky" card and board games when time permits and he is a certified judge for the card game *Magic: The Gathering*. He also said that he and his wife have three pet rabbits and a cat. Unfortunately, their cat was recently diagnosed with FIV, the feline version of HIV.

Overall, when asked about his experience at the College, he emphasizes that his favorite thing about the college is "how supportive the faculty and student body are, allowing newcomers to take risks and try out new classes."

The College wishes to welcome Dr. Clark and looks forward to his further contributions to the College community.

# 13 down...

# 6 to go!

This semester we're continuing our bios on professors new to the College this semester. We would like to thank the professors for their previous enthusiastic responses and are looking forward to continuing to enlighten the College community about the remaining new professors on campus.

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

Email

kf235779@muhlenberg.edu OR jb236317@muhlenberg.edu



## Campus Safety Notes

Dec. 15 - Liquor Law - Numerous opened and unopened cans of alcohol were reported in Martin Luther Hall, third floor. Referred to judicial.

Dec. 15 - Residential Policy - While investigating previous violations, an officer noticed a hamster/gerbil in a student's room in Martin Luther Hall, third floor. Student was advised to take it home.

Dec. 15 - Residential Policy - While investigating another violation, an officer noticed a rat in a cage in Martin Luther Hall, third floor. Student was advised to take it home.

Dec. 15 - Larceny - A \$450-500 ladder was stolen from the Communication Department office in Walson Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

Dec. 15 - Stolen Property - A table belonging to the College was found on the porch of a non-college owned house. Follow up to be conducted and referred to judicial.

Dec. 15 - Dispatch Code - Parents of a student called to check the welfare of their child in Brown Hall, first floor. Counseling and Housing Services were notified. The student was not on any housing list to stay on campus.

Dec. 16 - Stolen Property - A professor's name plate was found in South Hall, third floor. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Dec. 18 - Dispatch Code - Found stolen "Muhlenberg Hotspot" sign at 2201 Chew Street. Residents referred to Judicial.

Dec. 19 - Dispatch Code - A report of a lost cell phone in Prosser Hall Main, third floor.

Dec. 20 - Disorderly Conduct - A non-student was found intoxicated and needing assistance on N. 23 St. Allentown Police Department responded and the individual was arrested for public drunkenness.

Dec. 22 - An exit sign

face plate was removed by room 1345 of Prosser Hall Main, third floor. A work order was submitted for replacement. No suspects at this time.

Dec. 22 - On the first floor of Walz Hall, the REX motion sensor was removed from its unit. The sensor needs to be replaced, a work order was submitted. There are no suspects at this time.

Dec. 23 - Dispatch Code - An officer found a window opened at Phi Mu's residence of 330 N. 22 St. Nothing appears to have been taken. Work order submitted for rodent activity to be cleaned up.

Dec. 23 - Dispatch Code - A reporting party in the basement of South Hall reported finding a Muhlenberg College leather binder in the laundry room. Item was placed in the lost and found.

Dec. 25 - Plant Operations - While doing a check of the Hillcrest House, an officer noticed about two inches of water on the floor. It was noticed that water was coming out of the light fixture. Allentown Fire Department shut off the water to the house and they have shut the electric.

Dec. 27 - Alarms - A fire alarm on the third floor of Haas went off. The alarm was due to painting.

Dec. 29 - Alarms - A fire alarm sounded on the first floor of Haas. The alarm was caused during a generator check.

Dec. 29 - Dispatch Code - Lafayette Campus Safety officer dropped off a Muhlenberg hurdle that was found at Lafayette College.

Dec. 29 - Dispatch Code - A wallet was found in the ladies room of the Trexler Library. The item was placed in the evidence closet.

Dec. 31 - Dispatch Code - A cell phone was found while the reporting party was cleaning up wood. A call was placed to the owner to pick it up at the Campus Safety Dispatcher desk.

Jan. 1 - Other Offenses - Several students were found at 417 Leh St. without permission during break and alcohol was found in the house. Housing was notified. Referred to Judicial. Letters of trespass will be issued to non-students.

Jan. 1 - Other Offenses - While checking area on Liberty Street an officer states "a domestic going on; the female states she has a protection from abuse order against the male and there are kids inside." Allentown Police Department was called to respond.

Jan. 5 - Social Code Violation - Officer observed a freshman with an auto in the Prosser parking lot. Student referred to Judicial.

Jan. 6 - Residential Policy - A report of a smoke detector covered with a black cloth, numerous safety violations at 2147 Chew St. Housing also responding and bills will be mailed for fire safety violations.

Jan. 11 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off on the first floor of 2202 Gordon St. due to cooking in the kitchen.

Jan. 12 - Dispatch Code - Found Property - Dufflebag found by dumpster in Martin Luther parking lot and was placed in evidence locker. Owner was notified.

Jan. 14 - Dispatch Code - Found Property - Ipod found in Life Sports Center. Item was placed in evidence lockers.

Jan. 14 - Dispatch Code - Lost Property - A lost credit card was reported. Owner was advised to cancel card.

Jan. 15 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation was found on Martin Luther second floor. An officer was requested and the underage possession and consumption of alcohol was referred to judicial.

Jan. 16 - Liquor Law - Alcohol violation was discovered on Martin Luther third floor. Numerous varieties of alcohol were in plain view of the reporting party. The underage possession and consumption was referred to judicial.

Jan. 16 - Dispatch Code - Officer discovered no parking sign in Martin Luther Hall second floor, which was placed in the evidence closet.

Jan. 16 - Liquor Law - An alcohol violation was discovered in a room with an open door on the second floor of Brown Hall. The incident was referred to judicial.

Jan. 16 - Liquor Law - An underage student was discovered with alcohol on Martin Luther fourth floor. The student was referred to Judicial.

Jan. 16 - Liquor Law - Another underage student was discovered with alcohol on Martin Luther fourth floor. The student was referred to Judicial.

Jan. 16 - Dispatch Code - A ring was discovered in the ladies bathroom in the basement of Ettinger. The item was placed in evidence locker.

Jan. 16 - Dispatch Code - A small purse was found on Chew St. in front of the library and returned to owner.

Jan. 16 - Traffic - A Sodexo truck reportedly clipped a parked bus in the Memorial Hall parking lot causing mirror damage. The investigation is ongoing.

Jan. 16 - Dispatch Code - A missing wallet was reported. Owner was advised to cancel card.

Jan. 16 - Dispatch Code - A set of keys to a vehicle and home was reported lost in the 26 and Chew St. Parking lot.

Jan. 16 - Liquor Law - An officer was requested for an alcohol violation on the third floor of Prosser. Officers disposed of the alcohol and the incident was reported to Judicial.

Jan. 16 - Drug Abuse Violation - Student on Martin Luther Hall second floor was transported to hospital for drug use. Allentown EMS and Allentown Fire Department were informed.

Jan. 17 - Liquor Law - A

student on Prosser Annex first floor was found sick due to alcohol. Muhlenberg EMS and the Health Center were paged. Student was transported to hospital and referred to Judicial.

Jan. 17 - Medical - Student sick with fever and having trouble breathing. Muhlenberg EMS responded and transported student to hospital.

Jan. 17 - Medical - Student in Prosser Hall had an allergic reaction. Muhlenberg EMS paged and Health Center called. Student refused treatment.

Jan. 17 - Medical - Student on second floor of Walz Hall called for having trouble breathing. Muhlenberg EMS responded and transported to hospital.

Jan. 17 - Liquor Law - Empty and full beer cans were found in a room on Prosser Annex third floor. Underage drinking was reported and students were referred to Judicial.

Jan. 18 - Liquor Law - Intoxicated Student was reported in Walz Hall. Muhlenberg EMS responded, Health Center paged, student transported to hospital and referred to Judicial.

Jan. 18 - Disorderly Conduct - Student on Allen St. cited for disorderly conduct by Allentown Police Department and released.

Jan. 18 - Investigative - Suspicious Person reported in stairs of Brown Hall. Upon arrival building was checked but no one was found.

Jan. 18 - Medical - Injured Student - Student fell at GQ and wanted to fill out report. Muhlenberg EMS was paged student refused transportation to hospital.

Jan. 18 - Alarms - Fire alarm went off at 407/409 n 23 St. due to cooking.

Jan. 18 - Vandalism - Institutional Vandalism - An exit sign broken on Martin Luther Hall third floor. There are no suspects at this time.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"There is only one thing in life worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about."

- Oscar Wilde

## The Best Movies of 2008

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

This year has been a great one for Hollywood. Here are my top ten best movies of 2008.

1. *In Bruges*: Irish playwright Martin McDonagh strikes gold with his first feature length film *In Bruges*. Scenery, dialogue and very dark humor highlight this film about two hit men hiding out in Bruges, Belgium. As we follow the hit men, Ken and Ray, McDonagh uses his supreme writing ability and direction to create an emotional connection between the two and the audience, despite the nature of their work and their past. While in Bruges, the two attempt to deal both with their feelings over a botched assassination and their different views of the strange, gothic town they are in. Both Brendan Gleeson and Colin Farrell were nominated for the Golden Globe for Best Actor for their work as the hit men. Ralph Finnes gives a strong performance as their psychotic but moral boss and McDonagh proves that he has the ability to make both masterful plays and movies.

2. *Slumdog Millionaire*: Danny Boyle's masterpiece begins with its main character, Jamal Malik, one question away from winning \$1 million on India's version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." How did a child who grew up in the horrific slums of India -- something Boyle didn't shy away from showing -- manage to get this far on the game show? Did he cheat, is he lucky, or is it his destiny? Boyle tells Jamal's story by showing how events in his life helped him answer questions on the show. The originality and sheer genius of this form of storytelling makes this film an instant classic. But Boyle doesn't stop there. While the main plot of the film is Jamal's quest for the grand prize, the real story is his motivation for being on the show. Through Jamal, Boyle shows us that love is the most powerful emotion humans can experience, and how losing it can drive a person to go to extraordinary lengths to regain it. *Slumdog* is a truly uplifting film and certainly worthy of Best Picture awards.

3. *Doubt*: John Patrick Shanley's does a marvelous job at adapting his Tony Award winning play for the big screen. *Doubt* is about tolerance, truth, judgment and so many other things. But doubts are what this film is really about.

Every character has their doubts: doubts about life, doubts about career choices and doubts about the relationship between a priest and a student. Meryl Streep again gives a performance worthy of a lifetime (I count number six for her). The film features three very strong supporting performances from Philip Seymour Hoffman, Viola Davis, and Amy Adams. *Doubt* received five Golden Globe nominations, including one for each aforementioned actor.

4. *Man on Wire*: James Marsh's documentary of Philippe Petit's successful attempt to walk across the World Trade Center is thoroughly engrossing and electrifying. As a teenage acrobat in France, Petit recalls seeing a picture of the twin towers in a magazine. At that moment, he knew that walking across the towers would be his life-long goal. Marsh retells Petit's story using a combination of interviews, home videos and reenactments. Petit's story is a shining example of dedication, love, motivation and triumph. *Man on Wire* was the best documentary of the year, and like Petit, it is filled with spirit and is sure to make an impact on anyone who sees it.

5. *Revolutionary Road*: Director Sam Mendes returns to top form with this story of a suburban couple attempting to escape the monotony of the cookie-cutter lifestyle associated with 1950s America. Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet reunite for the first time since *Titanic* as a couple strangled by the constrictions of society and the sameness of their world. What makes this film so good is that DiCaprio and Winslet are just like everyone else, and that is the root of their problems. Winslet dreams of taking off for Paris, where she'll work while DiCaprio pursues his artistic impulses. Add two kids, thwarted ambitions, adultery plus Winslet's unwanted third pregnancy, and the whooshing sound you hear is a dream in free-fall. Mendes deserves acclaim for directing such a delicate film with such precision.

6. *The Dark Knight: The Dark Knight*

was one of the most highly anticipated films of the year, if not the decade, and it did not disappoint. A follow up to the 2005 success *Batman Begins*, this film is sensational, sinister, foreboding in atmosphere and certainly not for kids under 12-years-old. Thanks especially to a remarkable performance by the late Heath Ledger as the Joker, this is one of the most beautifully crafted entertainments of the year. The dizzying depiction of Gotham City nearing total anarchy isn't like any other Batman film put on screen. Christian Bale does a decent job as Bruce Wayne and Batman, which is enough for this film. What makes all Batman movies unique is that the most interesting characters in

"The dizzying depiction of Gotham City nearing total anarchy isn't like any other Batman film put on screen."

them are the villains. Ledger provides an unnerving and chilling portrayal of the Joker that deserves an Oscar nomination.

7. *Gran Torino*: At 79 years of age, Clint Eastwood still manages to

kick a s s onscreen, and, in what he claims to be his last acting role, Eastwood is as good as ever. *Gran Torino* uses a blend of comedy and emotion to get across its message of tolerance. Set in contemporary Detroit, in a neighborhood of great ethnic diversity and poverty, Eastwood plays a Korean War veteran who remains haunted by the demons of his past. We follow him as he interacts with a Korean family that moved in next door and the close bond he develops with the children. When a horrific event threatens the livelihood of his new found friends, Eastwood decides to take drastic action. I would not be surprised if he wins his first Best Actor Oscar for this role, albeit more for his career than this role. Such an honor would be a fitting conclusion to a portion of a career of one of the most talented people ever to grace Hollywood. Did I mention that he also directed, produced and sang part of the theme song for the film? *Gran Torino* is a fitting end to his illustrious acting career.

8. *Encounters at the End of the World*: Considering his past work, it should come as no surprise that legendary film-

maker Werner Herzog traveled to Antarctica to make his latest documentary. *Encounters* is about people who are looking for something at the "end of the world." Herzog takes his audience to some of the most amazing and secluded areas of the continent where only a handful of humans have been. Throughout the journey we come across many different personalities and learn about new and fascinating creatures that many of us have never seen before and we listen to the strange and entrancing sounds made by seals that live under the thick ice. Herzog, true to himself, also includes absolutely beautiful footage of the landscape above and, this time, below the ice. *Encounters* does not have a message to get across, all it does is expose its audience to one of the most amazing and beautiful parts of the world.

9. *Frost/Nixon*: Ron Howard's portrayal of the now historic Richard Nixon/David Frost interviews is as gripping as any movie this year. What makes this feat even more amazing is that the audience knows the ending and yet we are still glued to our seats in suspense. Based on Peter Morgan's critically acclaimed play of the same name, *Frost/Nixon* delves into the lives of the people who were central to the interviews which elicited a confession from President Nixon about his role in the Watergate scandal. Despite what we now know of Nixon, through the magic of Hollywood Howard manages to paint a sympathetic picture of the fallen president. While Michael Sheen does a solid job as portraying David Frost, the journalist and playboy, it is Frank Langella who steals the movie. Langella does not act as much as immerse himself in the role.

10. *The Visitor*: Richard Jenkins gives an extraordinary performance as a painfully lonely college professor who has seemingly made the choice to coast through the rest of his life. A chance meeting with a Syrian man and his African wife leads to a friendship between the three. The couple helps him discover a zest for life through art and music. An unforeseen and unfortunate event brings the friendship even closer. Through this event Jenkins rediscovers love and a purpose in his life. I truly hope Jenkins, mostly a character actor throughout his career, is recognized by the Academy for his superb work in this film.



# Warning: Date In Session

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

The smallest things can turn your night with a date into either a disaster or a dream, and not all of them are obvious. However, these small things can be like the bread on a sandwich: they can make or break your night, and it's best when they are heeded so that the evening turns out the best possible.

Bad evenings can happen fast, and to avoid them there are a few things to remember. Most well-known and media-glorified is bad breath. Avoid it as best as possible; try not to eat onions, garlic, or anything else that might contaminate your mouth for hours thereafter.

It's nearly impossible to have perfectly clean teeth unless you carry your toothbrush and toothpaste everywhere with you, but a simple mint or piece of gum can really help the situation.

Sometimes overlooked but nevertheless also important is a shower. This may seem a bit basic, considering that hygiene is an important part of life, but it's not hard to put it off a bit too long and end up a smelly date. It's better to

be late and clean than on-time and repulsive.

There are a few more things which can really ruin a good date, and they include farting and burping. Do your best to hold it in, and avoid food or drinks that will encourage it.

If you really need to, go to the bathroom.

Nothing ruins a romantic moment, and the moments of those around you, like silent but deadly flatulence.

Now if the previous things are avoided, your evening may go very well. But if you don't want to just avoid a bad situation, but you want to have a wonderful night, then there are a few things that will really make the evening special.

Complement one another: hair, outfits, makeup, car. Find something good to say about the other person, and then say it. Meaning it is also important, and telling your date how soft their hands are or how nice their earrings look will really lift their spir-

its and get them excited to be out with you.

Wear perfume or cologne, but don't bathe in it. Less is more. Scent is the biggest memory trigger and if you smell wonderful, you'll set the stage for a good night that will be easily remembered when your date smells something similar. Perfume or cologne is a quick and easy way to immediately make a night better.

Wear something simple that doesn't need to be adjusted throughout the night. If you're not comfortable in your off-the-shoulder sweater because it keeps becoming an off-the-upper-body sweater, save it for another night. This will keep your date focused on you and what you're saying instead of what your clothes are doing.

Let him pay. If he offers to pay, nothing is more emasculating to have him refuse to pay the check.

Put your phone away. Texting somebody else while on a date, especially your ex, is a rude and obnoxious act. Just because you have the unlimited plan doesn't mean

you have to use it at the expense of your date's feelings.

Look him in the eyes when he talks to you and nod your head so he knows you are listening. Smile, but don't look like a creeper. Laugh at his jokes no matter how dumb or corny they might be. Don't cry. Don't talk about your recently dead bird or your bad relationship with your mother. Nobody wants to go on a date with "Negative Nancy."

Don't drink too much. Vomiting is not attractive. Asking a guy to hold your hair while you vomit is not the best way to get compliments on how good your hair smells.

A good night out can be influenced by so many small factors, although more important than any of these is that you be yourself. Without that, a night out is just a waste of time.

Keeping all these things in mind, though, can lead to a really fabulous time out. Going out can be really fun and it's worth making an effort to have a good evening and get to know someone else better.

Here's to the night!

LOVE  
&  
LIFE

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

### WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF WINTER BREAK?



"Seeing some old friends I haven't seen in a couple years and getting back in touch with them."  
- Maggie Griffin, '11



"Spending time with my family and celebrating the holidays."  
- Mellissa Martin, '11



"Catching up on all the sleep I lost during first semester."  
- Logan Fairchild, '12



"Spending New Years on the Strip with my friends."  
- Erica Lang, '09



"Bank robbery."  
- Lauren Satkwich, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Marley & Me

Fri. 1:20, 4:10, 7:00  
Sat. 1:20, 4:10, 7:00  
Sun. 1:20, 4:10, 7:00

### Inkheart

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

### Hotel for Dogs

Fri. 4:50, 7:45, 10:20  
Sat. 4:50, 7:45, 10:20  
Sun. 4:50, 7:45, 10:20

### Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Fri. 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
Sat. 5:10, 7:30, 9:50  
Sun. 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

### Underworld: The Rise of the Lycans

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

### Bride Wars

Fri. 5:20, 7:40, 10:10  
Sat. 5:20, 7:40, 10:10  
Sun. 5:20, 7:40, 10:10

### The Unborn

Fri. 4:40, 7:10, 9:40  
Sat. 4:40, 7:10, 9:40  
Sun. 4:40, 7:10, 9:40



## The Take Tectonic

By Emily Besen  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

In today's musical climate of relentless synthesizers and overproduced squalor, there's nothing more refreshing than a group of endearing guys creating infectious rock straight from the heart. Lucky for us, New Jersey based foursome, The Take, has got it covered.

With Muhlenberg's own Nick LaFalce on lead guitar, Joe Vivona singing vocals, Tommy Lenehan on guitar, Mike Collins on drums, and guest appearances from Muhlenberg's Justin Mayfield on bass, The Take brings us catchy as heck pop ballads layered with the musical complexity of distinguished rock. The Take's seven-track EP Tectonic, is one ride you don't want to miss.

With one listen to "All Up to You" its clear The Take's got star power. The auto-tuned intro draws the listener into an exhilarating vortex of heavy hitting drum beats and a driving guitar riff emphatically topped off by LaFalce's brilliant 40-second solo.

While songs like "Of Course it Hurts" are shining beacons of The Take's signature sound, "Over Me" provides a welcome interlude. Like an island oasis in a sea of electric reverberation, the

stripped-down track showcases the guys' sensitivity with lyrics like "Please just go you're making it worse now by standing there with your arms crossed/Leave me be I don't need you anymore."

There are no words profound enough to do Vivona's voice justice. Here we see his immense vocal range, from chanting falsettos to the depths of the pleading chorus, a three-part harmony of "Go/You're making it worse." We see the band's softer side yet again during "Without Words," dramatic opening.

But of course The Take is all about surprises. The winding acoustics break into a seven-minute ballad complete with the zealous anthem, "With high hopes we swallow the pain that is to follow."

Yet the only pain that follows is the startling realization that the Tectonic journey has come to an end, but then again, you can always relisten to it.

From start to bittersweet finish, The Take invigorates listeners and guides them down a path of self-reflection replete with passion, dexterity, and vitality. Tectonic supplies enough energy to fuel your next ten, twenty, or more dance parties. If you want to hear more of The Take, please visit [www.myspace.com/TheTake](http://www.myspace.com/TheTake).

## Hello and Goodbye through the Red Doors

By Kati Neubauer  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The first thing you notice when you arrive at the College is that you always enter through red doors. As the saying goes, red doors are the symbol of a hearty and warm welcome.

The foreign exchange student Julia Kooyman, Junior, from the Netherlands, and I, a Senior, from Germany, learned quickly that this is very true not only for the nice study environment but especially for the people.

Wherever we went doors were held wide open for us and we were invited to share the American academic resources as well as the famous American college culture that is so celebrated in countless dorms and fraternity houses.

As Kooyman '10, "I was more than pleased to be placed here, because it was a great opportunity for me to experience the differences in teaching methods, culture, and student life between my university and Muhlenberg College."

We felt more than welcomed by meeting open minded teachers and were glad to gather with students interested in European culture as well.

"The Red Doors" in Seegers Union also symbolized the kind staff all over campus which not only satisfied our need for typical American food, such as

peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and excellent coffee served with a smile, but also helped us to find our way around and feel at home at Muhlenberg College for one semester.

So even though Shuttle Steve's van is not red, he still knew where to take us and bid us a fond farewell after all our finals had been taken.

Even if our experience at this nice college with the red emblem, which stands for great students and faculty came to an end, Susan B. Norling, coordinator of International Programs, ensured us that the exchange spots at The Hague University (The Netherlands) and The Potsdam University (Germany) are not yet filled and are waiting for students to apply.

We would be more than happy to give you a hearty and warm welcome at our home universities also and introduce you into our culture as you all have done for us, with such consideration this past semester.

We would like to thank President Randy Helm for his hospitality, our professors for helping us excel, our peers for making Muhlenberg feel even more like home, and everyone else who we have met who have made the transition from Europe to the United States an easy, yet fascinating one. This past semester was one that we will not forget, thanks to all of you.

Uncle Sam says  
"We Want You" to  
write for Life!

Send your articles and pictures to:

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# The press box: My (hopefully not) once in a lifetime experience

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

I have been trying to get a press pass to a Philadelphia Flyers' game for over three months now. I pulled every string I could in order to get one, and nothing ever worked.

Well, by using the name "Muhlenberg Weekly," I was finally granted one. I spoke to Joe Klueg about two hours before my final exam began (shows you my priorities in life), and he told me it would be no problem. To sum up my experience, I'll explain the series of events throughout the afternoon.

11:35 AM- I arrive at the Wachovia Center, and attempt to look for the press entrance. I was told by my friend that it is a door that beeps extremely loudly on the Pattison Avenue side of the arena. After following the beeping sound for about five minutes, I finally find a door that leads me down a rickety staircase. After giving them my name and receiving my press pass, they unlocked the door and allowed me into the basement, where I was confronted by many extra NBA basketball nets, loads of Zambonis, and ten pound bags of popcorn.

11:40 AM- I hear yelling to my right, look over, and see the Philadelphia Flyers in a circle playing soccer with each other. As each player gets eliminated from their game, they start running laps through the basement, preparing for the game.

11:50 AM- I arrive at the press box, which takes up an entire half of the stadium, above the third deck. I am immediately greeted by my good friend, Brian Jennings, who first let me into the locker room during rookie camp in July. We talk for a few minutes, and I find my seat at number 47.

12:00 PM- As I walk through the hallway behind the press seats, I meet Jim Jackson, play-by-play broadcast for Comcast SportsNet. We talk for a quick second, before he has to get into the booth to prepare for the game. Then Keith Jones walks by me, following JJ to the booth, and

I introduce myself to him as well.

12:15 PM- I sit in my seat, look up, and realize that Bill Barber and Dave Brown are sitting above me. I introduce myself to them as well, and walk around to meet others.

12:25 PM- As I'm standing at the food table stocking up on cookies for the game, I spot Flyers' GM Paul Holmgren walking nearby. I briskly walk up to him and introduce myself. He recognizes my name, and the fact that my arm is shaking.

12:30 PM- I meet Eklund. THE Eklund. He was, let's say, not very pleasant looking. Enough said.

12:40 PM- I move my seat next to Brian, and mention that the guy sitting above him looks like Calgary GM Darryl Sutter. We google him, and discover that it is indeed him. I become both excited and confused as to why he is in Philadelphia. And suspicious, too.

12:50 PM- I see Sutter and Holmgren talking for a long time. Can anyone say trade talks?

1:05 PM- The game begins, I take my seat, and get ready for the Battle of Pennsylvania to begin; Flyers vs. Penguins.

1:47 PM- First intermission, Flyers up on the Penguins 2-0. Jim Jackson calls me over and asks me to come into the broadcasting booth. I gladly accept the invitation, and he shows me through the cramped room to show me how they work. He then explains to me that the Flyers' third jerseys are hell for him, because it is hard for the play-by-play commentators to see the numbers quickly.

1:59 PM- I go to the bathroom, and look next to me. Bob Clarke is standing to my left. Do not worry, I did not break bathroom conduct.

2:41 PM- Second intermission. I walk up to Darryl Sutter, and introduce myself. He shakes my hand (I shook Darryl Sutter's hand!!!), and when I ask him what brings him to Philadelphia, he tells me that since his team is in New Jersey tonight, he wanted to just watch a hockey game as a fan. Somehow, I don't buy that, since he

has a laptop, a notebook, and is vigorously writing notes during the game.

2:50 PM- I want to go up and introduce myself to Bobby Clarke, but he is talking to his two children, so I decide not to bother him. They'll be other opportunities, right? Right??

3:37 PM- The game ends with the Flyers taking the win 6-3. We all go downstairs to the press conference for coach John Stevens.

3:40 PM- We arrive in the press conference room, with no podium. Stevens looks confused, as do we. We are told they are preparing for the Sixers' press conference to announce that Maurice Cheeks is being fired.

3:46 PM- I leave the press conference and head to the Penguins' locker room in hopes of talking to Sidney Crosby. When I am told that the Pens have already left the building, so I head to the Flyers' locker room.

3:48 PM- The entire team is still around doing a post-game workout. I talk to Martin Biron, Mike Knuble, Mike Richards, Matt Carle, Joffrey Lupul, Jeff Carter, Scott Hartnell, and Danny Briere. I also say hi to Paul Holmgren one last time before I leave the locker room.

4:05 PM- I get back to my seat to finish up my notes, and pack up. I look down at the rink, which is almost completely converted to a basketball court in just over a half hour. I walk out of the building, satisfied with my experience, hoping to get another press pass for the future.

*I want to thank Zack Hill and Joe Klueg for granting me this opportunity that I will never forget. I also want to thank everyone in the organization and everyone that I met for being so courteous and for not treating me like a typical 18-year old kid.*

*Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report and the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers section. He is also the co-host of NHL 2Day, a weekly radio show on Youcastr.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com.*

## Track and Field is up & running again

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Take your mark, set, and go - track and field season is up and running again. With a roster full of new talent and a solid set of returning athletes, both the men and women's teams are looking to improve their overall standing in the Centennial Conference.

"We hope to place higher than previous years, especially because our team is significantly larger than previous years," said Senior Lucy Brock, women's team co-captain. In the 2008 indoor season, the women placed fifth, after finishing third in 2007 and second in 2006. The men's team finished sixth in the 2008 indoor season.

"We hope to utilize the energy and enthusiasm of the young team to get more names on the top ten list each week leading up to conferences," Brock said.

The Mules are off to a good start. The team claimed five first-place finishes at the season-opening Kutztown Golden Bear Invitational (January 9). Junior Alex Faust set a record-breaking time in the 55-meter (7:58), adding a third event to her list of

school records. Faust set the 200-meter record at Kutztown last year, and also holds the college and Conference record in pole vault.

Several track newcomers added their names to the Mules' top-performer list: Freshman Jenna Schaffer in the 55-meter (fifth, 7:72) and 200-meter (eighth, 27.85), and Marc Brookland in the triple jump (seventh, 40-2).

Though the Mules graduated a talented crop of athletes last spring, team captains feel that the team's new roster of freshmen will help fill the voids.

"We added a large number of sprinters and 400 runners, along with a few new mid-distance and distance girls," Brock said. "Unfortunately we graduated a lot of jumpers in the past couple of years, but we have upperclassmen stepping up to the challenge of getting points in these events."

The Mules will look to women's co-captains Brock and Amanda Martini, and men's co-captains Seniors David Chorney and Stuart Udis, for leadership.

The men's team is off to a good start as

well. Two runners have been named as Centennial Conference Athletes of the Week. Udis was recognized last week for his 1,000 meter win at Kutztown and his spot on the winning 4 x 800 meter relay team. Junior Brendan Kirk was named this week's top Centennial athlete, anchoring the 4x400 (first place) and 4x200 (sixth place) relay teams at the Susquehanna Orange & Maroon Classic. Kirk also finished second in the high hurdles and placed fourth in the 400 meters.

Faust was recognized as women's Athlete of the Week for her Kutztown results. She posted another impressive performance at Susquehanna, qualifying for the NCAA championships in the pole vault (11-6). Faust also won the 400 meters in a personal-best, ECAC-qualifying time, and ran on the winning 4x400 relay team at the Orange & Maroon Classic.

The teams compete next at the Lehigh Covert Classic, Sat., Jan. 24.



# Where dreams come true: 2009 IM preview



## Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

It's that time of the year folks. No, I'm not talking about the Super Bowl. I'm talking about something far more important- the Intramural Basketball season. We've all been waiting for it; we've all had the countdown going for months. Life

starts now!

As the 2009 campaign commences on Sunday, the upcoming season promises to be exciting, dramatic, and heart-breaking. Several teams have their eyes on the coveted championship trophy. Over this past weekend, the Intramural Board of Directors met for their first annual preseason awards meeting, and the discussions were heated.

Highlighting the meetings was the vote over preseason Most Valuable Player. Two candidates emerged as front-runners for the award, and senior Joe Gogel of the historic Kon Tiki squad was elected preseason MVP by two-scissor lengths over senior William Wishart of Team Wish. Gogel leads a scrappy and tough defensive Kon Tiki squad, but Gogel is truly the engine that drives that team. Wishart leads a perennial powerhouse in Team Wish, which was unanimously voted as the preseason overall favorite. Wishart, a smooth left-hander, heads a squad which conducted an unblemished championship season in 2007 and lost in last year's final to Kalamazoo.

Wishart and Gogel were both unanimous choices to the prestigious Preseason All Intramural first team. Joining those two are Coach Perk and Junior Brian Ward of Team Wish, as well as newcomer Spencer Joseph of Team Work, who

rounds out the Titans of this year's league.

Joining Ward, Perk, and Wish, on Team Wish as Preseason Intramural second team members are seniors Ryan Paskin and Tim Ganter. That makes up the starting five of Team Wish, who look to avenge last season's heart-wrenching loss. Also making second team was sophomore Matt Ceconi, who needs to have a huge year if Kon Tiki is going to make noise this year. Rounding out the second team were two surprise picks in junior Kyle Wachter of the ManBearPigs and senior Brandon Doyle of the Foot Ballers. Both Wachter and Doyle look to lead a group of athletic and strong players towards a shot at the title.

Finishing second in the preseason rankings was Kon Tiki, lead by Gogel and Ceconi. Joining those two is a group of quick and aggressive defenders, lead by seniors Billy Dalton and Greg Leischner. If the team can control senior Steve Tenenzapf, and get him to play within their system, Kon Tiki should be a dangerous team. Finishing third in the rankings was Team Work, a tall and long team of sophomores. Joining first team selection Joseph up front will be sophomores Pat Rowan, Ryan Doncsecz, and Corey Whitehead, making Work by far the

tallest team in the league this season.

Rounding out the top five teams will be the ManBearPigs and the Foot Ballers. Both of these teams are a bit of a question mark, as many of their players need to transition from football to basketball mode, but both teams have the ability to win it all. The ManBearPigs are lead by Wachter and a strong front line of juniors Frank Emmet and JJ Contessa, with an occasional boost from junior Mike Peischl. The Foot Ballers are lead by second team selection Doyle, as well as preseason Comeback Player of the Year, winner senior Michael Nolan who missed last season due to an academic situation: studying abroad. The Foot Ballers also include senior JoeCaporoso and James Corbett, who also missed last season for abroad reasons. The Foot Ballers may be this year's darkhorse team that makes noise towards the end of the year.

The final award went to senior Darrel Roth, who was voted preseason Referee of the Year.

The 2009 season promises to be a season unlike any other. With so many seniors entering their last waltz, fans can expect to see hearts and souls left on the court on a nightly basis. The first games begin Sunday Jan., 25. Good luck to all teams!

## Mules kick the Blue Jays' tails

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Last Thursday night, the Muhlenberg Lady Mules played their seventh Centennial Conference basketball game of the season, and they did not fail to disappoint. The Mules came out on top of the John Hopkins Blue Jays by a final score of 69-59.

Muhlenberg seemed to dominate for the majority of the game, other than a few minute collapse in the first half when they allowed JHU to go on a 7-0 scoring run.

'Berg played well for the first and last third of the first half, while the Jays took the lead for the first and only time midway through the half, going up 18-16. The Lady Mules would have none of it, though, as they finished the first half up 35-27. Freshman Alexandra Chili had 12 points in the first half, including three three-pointers, two assists, and a steal. For the Jays, Lyndsay Burton also had 12 points, all two-point

field goals.

In the second half, 'Berg started out playing phenomenally, going on a 7-2 run to extend their lead. Their win was sealed when they proceeded to go on a 20-9 run midway through the half. Even the Jays' 21-12 run at the end of the game could not threaten 'Berg's lead. Chili ended the game as 'Berg's scoring leader with 20 points.

On Saturday afternoon, the Franklin & Marshall Diplomats came to town, and the Lady Mules once again played extremely well to remain undefeated at 8-0 in the Centennial Conference, winning by a score of 64-51.

Senior Lauren Boyle led the Mules with 19 points, while Alexandra Chili had 14 points and 4 assists. Sophomore Kelly McKeon also had 17 points and 6 assists.

The win extended Muhlenberg's lead to three games over second place Dickinson.

Muhlenberg's next game is Thursday night against Dickinson, where they will attempt to remain undefeated.



Senior Lauren Boyle drives to the lane with little opposition from the Hopkins defender.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## McSherry swats way into record book

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

For the past 3 seasons, senior Erin McSherry has owned the paint for the Mules; now she owns the record book. In a Dec. 3 game against Swarthmore, McSherry recorded 4 blocks to increase her career total to 119 breaking the Muhlenberg Women's Basketball all-time record. The previous record was intact for over 25 years, held by Lisa Ball with a total of 116 blocks. The overall Muhlenberg school record is held by Mark Lesko, who now serves as an assistant on the men's team, whose career total is 165 blocks. Recent graduate Jeff Stewart '07 is third on the list, with a career total of 138 in only 3 seasons.

Listed at 6'1", the Montclair, NJ native has been the team and Conference leader in shot blocking over the past 3 seasons. As a sophomore, McSherry started all 26 games for the Mules and recorded 47 blocks, good enough for 5th in the Conference. She also contributed over 7 rebounds per game, which put her 15th in the Conference.

As a junior, McSherry really emerged as a premier defender, as she was the anchor of one of the Conference's best defensive teams. McSherry recorded 57 blocks in 2007, which was 14 blocks better than any other player in the Centennial Conference. To put McSherry's 57 blocks in perspective, it was a higher total than two entire Centennial Conference teams

recorded throughout their season. McSherry also led the Mules in rebounding at 6.6 per game. She was the leader of a defense that held teams to under 60 points per game, good enough for 3rd in the Conference.

McSherry entered her senior season with a career total of 111 blocks, needing only 5 blocks to break the record. McSherry broke the record in her 5th game of the season, and since then has continued to distance herself from any other woman in Muhlenberg history. Through the team's first 11 games, McSherry has tallied 11 blocks, which has her 3rd in the Conference. Not surprisingly, McSherry's defensive presence has helped propel Muhlenberg to the Conference's 3rd best defense. Sophomore Eric Boskey, the team manager for the Mules, said of McSherry, "her presence in the middle has been the key to our defense -- and our defense has been the key to our success." And so far this year, that success has been an undefeated record in Conference play.

No one would say that blocked shots win basketball games on their own -- but they certainly help. McSherry has been a key member of a senior class that has won more games over 3 years than any class in school history. If the team continues to play well this season, McSherry and her fellow seniors will graduate as Muhlenberg's all-time winningest class.



Senior Erin McSherry dominating in Conference play.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Close losses lead to huge week

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

No one on the Muhlenberg Men's Basketball Team is happy with the team's 3-4 Conference record, but perhaps they should be encouraged. Muhlenberg's four losses have all come against the Conference's top three teams: Franklin & Marshall, McDaniel, and Gettysburg, who all sit atop the Centennial Conference with league records of 6-1. Mule fans should be encouraged by the close losses, which simply demonstrate that the Mules can compete with every team in the Conference.

Against McDaniel, Muhlenberg fell behind the home team 5-20 to start the game. They ended up losing by only 6 on the road. When Gettysburg came to Memorial Hall, the Mules opened up a 17 points lead, before watching it turn into a 2-point defeat. And last weekend against Franklin & Marshall, the Mules lost a see-saw affair as the Diplomats won by 1. All three of those losses were hard to handle for the Mules, but all three should demonstrate one simple fact: The Mules are good enough to win this Conference.

The Mules enter this week holding onto the fifth and final playoff spot right now, with a huge week of games coming up. In a five-day span, the Mules travel to Dickinson, Washington, and Swarthmore, for a trio of games the Mules need to, and can, win. Those three teams have a combined league record of 4-17, and each sit in the bottom of the league standings. But as the Mules learned last week, a seven-day period can seriously alter the Conference standings.

Last weekend began with the Mules tied for second to last place in the Conference, with only 1 league win under their belts. But a big week, which was one point away from being a huge week, saw the Mules defeat both Washington and Johns Hopkins at home before losing a heart breaker to F&M. If the Mules can play as well this week as they did against Hopkins or F&M, their playoff situation will be nearly cemented by week's end.

So far the Mules have been led by their team defense and by their inside game. The Mules enter this week on top of the Conference for several important categories.

They are holding teams to 37% shooting, easily the tops in the Conference, and hold the Conference's best rebounding margin at about +8 per game. The Mules also average 5.23 blocks per game, nearly a full block ahead of the next best Centennial team.

Leading the Mules in both blocked shots and rebounding are junior Peter Barnes and sophomore Spencer Liddic. Barnes and Liddic have been the most dominant 1-2 punch of any two big men in the Conference, as the two are well on their way to becoming Muhlenberg's new Twin Towers. The two have dominated both the boards and opposing shooters, as Barnes leads the Conference in rebounding at 10.2 per game, while Liddic is seventh in the Conference with 7.3 rebounds. For blocked shots, Barnes is currently second with 32 total for 2.46 blocks per game, while Liddic is fourth with 21 total for 1.62 per game. As long as those two continue keeping the paint under Mule control, our Mules have a great chance not only to make the Conference playoffs, but to do some serious damage once they get there.

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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009

## Muhlenberg Students attend Obama inauguration

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Tues. Jan. 20, the world witnessed the first African-American sworn into the Office of the President of the United States. Nearly forty million Americans watched the historical moment on TV networks across the nation. But a number of Muhlenberg students had the great opportunity to join the two million people gathered on the National Mall to witness the historical moment in person.

Students attending the trip began piling into the Center for the Arts around 1:00 A.M. for a 1:30 departure time. It was clear that the students were well-prepared for a late-night departure and the freezing cold of Washington as most came wearing five or six layers and packed blankets and pillows. Five coach buses were rented to take the 250-plus students and faculty to the District of Columbia. Sodexo provided the students with breakfast, lunch and snacks, and everyone was given a pair of hand-warmers and a map of Washington.

Due to the high volume of students attending the trip, the buses didn't leave until around 2:00 A.M. For most of the four hour trip, students kept to themselves and caught up on sleep. To the surprise of many, there was almost no traffic the entire way into Washington D.C. When the bus arrived at 6:00 A.M. students grabbed their breakfasts and lunches and began their mile walk to the National Mall in the pitch-black of the night. Most of the students walked in groups of

friends. As they got closer to the Mall the sky began to brighten and large crowds began to form. While approaching the Washington Monument, a sea of Port-O-Pottys became visible; it's hard to fathom how there were any left for construction sites across America.

The Washington Monument serves as one of the two book-ends of the National Mall; the other is the Capitol Building. Last Tuesday it also served as the threshold for two million witnesses to history. As students passed the Washington Monument, the enormity of the event became clear. Nearly one million people were crowded in front of them; a sight never seen before by most people. While entering the National Mall, dawn began to break which created a beautiful image of the Capitol Building with a brilliant purple sky behind it and over a million people in front of it.

After finding the way to a spot near one of the many jumbo TV screens, the group settled down to relax for the four hours they would spend together before the inauguration started. Students played games and made friends with people standing near in the crowd. Senior Laura Smith described this point in the trip by saying, "We were crammed like sardines and miserably cold for eight hours, but in the end, it was worth it." Hillel Program Engagement Associate, Dave Furman, used the downtime to make friends in the Mall. "Being pressed into the National Mall with two million people made me truly realize how momentous of an event I was taking part in. Having conversations about Barack Obama and our hopes and dreams for the United States of America with people from across the world, from Miami and Atlanta, L.A., Oregon and Jamaica, were the most powerful moments for me."



The Captiol Building at dawn on inauguration day.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW HOWARD

When the ceremony began at 10:00 A.M. the crowd's energy began to build. The energy reached a crescendo when Barack Obama was seen on the TV screens entering the Capitol Building and was sustained until after Chief Justice John Roberts stumbled his way through the swearing-in process. After Obama repeated "So help me God," the crowd roared and two million mini-American flags waved in the air. Strangers hugged, people cried and cameras flashed as Obama became the 44th President of the United States.

After Obama's inaugural address – and an attempt to appreciate a special poem – the process of clearing out two million people began. It took almost two hours to leave the National Mall and get past the Washington Monument. When students got back on the bus around 4, they began to reflect on an amazing day. Senior Louisa Balch said, "It was so exciting to share the experience with so many different people. The energy was contagious and people were smiling and giving each other hugs and, even though it was freezing, we were all happy to be there."

At 8:30 P.M. the buses arrived back at the College. Students, still exhausted from the long day, had mixed emotions about being back. On one hand they were ready to relax in their rooms, but on the other, they realized that they will almost certainly never experience the energy of two million people excited for the same reason. For the 250 Muhlenberg students, January 27, 2009 is a day they will never forget.



A view looking back at over a million people excited by the inauguration of America's first African-American President.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW HOWARD



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## It's 11 p.m...Do you know where your headline is?

Know how it feels when you have a massive paper due in the morning, and you have written approximately three and a half lines? Welcome to production nights at The Weekly. We too know the pressure of deadlines (magnified by about ten) every single Tuesday. After classes, we trek down to our Underground office and begin production. We scramble to fill sections, edit every copy, and finally begin writing an editorial all before the sun comes up, which is usually our goal.

Most Tuesday nights we don't have a hard time coming up with a topic. Last week, for example, was a given; but some nights (like tonight) we sit around and throw ideas back and forth with no real passion for any topic, until we are down to the wire and have to type something. Actually, that is how this idea was conceived, out of frustration and obligation, which is kind of ironic when you think about it. We are writing this because we have to fill the space, but what does that say about us?

Does it say that we can work under pressure? That we know our jobs and stick to them? That we are not as informed as we would like to be about local and world events and, as such, have no real opinions on anything? Or rather we do, but it is difficult to give them when they affect the student body or the College as a whole and could put us in a critical light. It is hard to criticize those we live among, or to be criticized by others for the opinions we express in our editorial. It is truly a catch-22 situation.

We applaud our Op/Ed writers who have no problem expressing an opinion, but keep in mind that this column is comprised of three authors, not one. Despite that we work well together, and are generally on the same page, it can be difficult to find a subject we can agree on that affects us all. Enter the political editorial and the overly familiar coverage of the election and Barack Obama.

We know about freedom of the press, we've taken all the classes. We also know the power and influence a newspaper can have, but sometimes shy from it. We are the only College-sponsored print media outlet, which makes us more vulnerable while simultaneously giving us greater influence among our peers. But perhaps we should throw caution to the wind, and experiment. After all, isn't that what college is all about?

# Dignity for Palestinians and Burning Sacred Flags

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

In response to Adam Yu's pieces last week, "The case for Israel's defense" and "Our Sacred Flag," I would like to have a coming-out. In the last two years, I have come to identify as an anarchist and humanist. In a sound bite, anarchism is a way of life that manifests participatory democracy, mutualism, and consent by replacing coercion, hierarchy, and domination. Humanism is love, defense, and solidarity for human beings regardless of identity or origin.

Now that I'm out and proud, I would like to propose a radical shift: for peace, justice, equality, and environmental sustainability everywhere, for everyone. With our current power relationships, it is 'radical' to believe that these things can exist all at the same time. Today's academic, political, and economic elites, like many of us at Muhlenberg, render these principles inaccessible or impossible. We privileged few find it remarkably convenient that governments, lobbies, and corporations exist as we're trained how to use them to our benefit. My hat is off to anyone who thinks otherwise.

Among many things that are completely incompatible with my proposal is the ideology of nationalism. In the name of national identity, governments are formed. Certainly, we can agree that both 'government' and 'nation' are not synonymous with the people who live within their arbitrary borders. Every system that concentrates decision-making power in the hands of the few must be defended with violence and other types of coercion.

Now in an overview, both the United States of America and Israel are nation-states that were colonized without the consent or cooperation of the people who were living there before. Pretty flags, borders, governments, hierarchies, parties, pledges, anthems, and portraits were drawn up predominantly by authoritarian old white men to beautify the violence and resource hoarding they needed to establish their power.

Forgive me for being short on a complex history, but I have to move onto burning flags. Flags stand for governments, not people. It says in the Pledge, "to the republic, for which it stands." Therefore, someone who sees their government as despotic, undemocratic, and destroying "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" ought to burn their flag! After all, the US government remains the greatest purveyor of violence in the world. Why would I ever want to pledge allegiance to its criminal politicians? I'd rather

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## Changing directions in foreign policy



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

We all understand how President Obama has his hands full with America's economic problems. Currently, he is trying to persuade Republicans in both the House and the Senate to support his stimulus plan. The open dialogue between the White House and Congress is an

early encouraging sign for this administration, since the U.S. needs immediate action to help our economy. An increase in negotiations and face-to-face visits between Obama and members of the Republican Party will do nothing but allow the stimulus bill to go through at a quicker pace.

Outside of the pressing economic issues America is facing, President Obama has already completely changed the tone and direction of other domestic programs and our foreign policy. Obama has pledged to restore science to its proper place in our society.

Unlike the Bush years, when reports were rewritten and information was suppressed to support the administration's agenda, Obama has appointed people who will attack global warming head on and won't be afraid to present information that doesn't match the administration's political agenda. He has also increased our government's aid to family planning organizations, recognizing that preaching abstinence

isn't going to decrease unwanted pregnancies as well as assisting different family planning groups inside this country.

In terms of foreign policy, Obama has offered a more open dialogue to the Middle East. Recently in an interview with a major Arab television network, Al-Arabiya, Obama went out of his way to point out America isn't an enemy of the entire Middle East region or the Muslim world.

Also, he encouraged an increased partnership and a relationship that is built around respect of mutual interests, instead of America dictating their desires to the entire region.

Obama also expressed a desire to openly speak to Iran in order to lay out what our differences are with them, and attempt to find some way to make progress before relations further deteriorate.

There will be an increased focus on stabilizing Afghanistan and its border with Pakistan, according to Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. President Obama has stated that

making Afghanistan more secure and eliminating Al-Queda's presence there is America's number one overseas priority. It remains to be seen when the general withdrawal of troops from Iraq will begin and how many of those troops will be re-directed to either Afghanistan or Pakistan.

In Asia, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has raised the prospect of direct negotiations with North Korea and talked about reviewing our policy towards China. Even though most of our foreign policy focus is on the Middle East, it is important to have stable relations with a rapidly growing power like China.

The new administration's most publicized move so far has been the executive order to close Guantanamo Bay. This decision is a demonstration of America moving away from the secrecy and hypocrisy of the Bush administration. Obama has already sharply changed the direction within the White House.



# In recent news...

By Matthew Cobaugh  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Recently, I was scanning through some interesting news websites like most average college students do on a daily basis. I was not searching for anything in particular, just the usual story title that peaks my interest. In the midst of all of this, I was carrying on a regular conversation with my older brother who lives in State College. During our conversation and my desperate search for an article that sounded interesting, my brother drew my attention to an article written in *The Patriot-News*, the mid-state publication. The title of the article was, "Governor creates job for former state legislator." With a few choice words on the side, my brother instructed me to read the article.

Allow me to, in brief, cite the contents of the article. Apparently, this past November, a man named Dan Surra, a longtime Democratic legislator from Elk County Pennsylvania, lost his run for his tenth term in the House of Representatives. If he would have won his bid for a tenth term, his salary would have increased to \$95,002 per year. After losing his position in the House of Representatives, the Governor of Pennsylvania Ed Rendell created a new, high-profile position for Surra with the matching salary of \$95,002.

Perhaps the biggest twist to this story is that last year the Rendell administration invoked a high-profile hiring freeze in an attempt to control a growing state-wide budget deficit. An average person might conclude that Rendell may have needed Surra's expertise in a certain area or per-

haps that the position Surra was given must be of great importance. The position Surra received must be so great, in fact, that Rendell was forced to break his own rules of a government-wide hiring freeze.

Well, Surra's new job is practically a tourism manager for twelve acres of trees in northern Pennsylvania. More specifically, Surra is now earning \$95,002 a year for being in charge of a twelve acre section of Pennsylvania called "Pennsylvania Wilds."

The area in question here is attempting to be marketed as a tourism destination for local Pennsylvanians. The Rendell administration contests that, "There are times even during a hiring freeze that we need to make investments that make sense. It would have been tragic to allow that much talent to disappear from public service." In a continuing statement Rendell's spokesman said, "The governor's office certainly promoted Dan [Surra] for the position given that developing the Wilds as a tourist destination, and developing the Marcellus Shale gas reservoir's economic potential are critical to the commonwealth's future." Really? Apparently, the Rendell administration considers assigning a person the job of promoting a twelve acre section of trees for a salary of \$95,002 per year critical to Pennsylvania's economic future.

Furthermore, there is the enormous question of ethics surrounding this entire decision by the Rendell administration. It seems that it is now Governor Rendell's, soul responsibility to select which public servants talent is too good to not be utilized in government. Perhaps Governor

Rendell should look at this November's election results. The people of Elk County selected a different public servant to represent them, thus deciding that Dan Surra's talent was no longer adequate in government. The people of Elk County also consequently decided to not pay for his ridiculous \$95,002 salary by not electing him. However, Rendell decided differently for them. This entire ordeal smells of dirty tricks on top of the fact that Rendell broke his own high-profile hiring freeze.

It seems as though Governor Rendell makes rules for everyone else but does not apply them to himself. If Rendell was truly concerned about the economic state of Pennsylvania then there are three things he could do here.

The first is to follow all orders of hiring freezes and to not make inside deals with party fat-cats and the good old boy network. The second thing is not to allow people with miniscule jobs to earn ridiculous salaries. And the third is to let the people of the commonwealth decide who's high salary they want to pay. If it was the economy Rendell was worried about, then he could, in place of hiring Dan Surra, hire a local graduate with a few interns, maybe from Penn State's growing agriculture department, for example. The pay would have been much less and he would have just helped three, maybe four people, get a start in serving their state and starting a career.

I'm afraid that even in these tough economic times, our Pennsylvania Governor simply doesn't understand plain old common sense and the commonwealth consequently must pay for it.

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## PALESTINIANS

FROM PAGE 2

burn the flag they hide behind, among other things.

On Israel, I have to make no exception for their South African-style apartheid. Remember, Israel is a state with a government that makes policies that are fallible. I also like the quote Adam Yu used on the concept of freedom. "The only freedom which deserves the name, is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs." The question is, who has freedom and who is depriving it for others?

On freedom, Adam overlooked some facts about Gaza and Israel. On his distaste for angry nonviolent protests, I've seen demonstrations with pro-Israel signs that said "Nuke Gaza," a call for mass slaughter like the Allies did to Berlin, while "Smash the Israeli state" implies the dismantling and sabotage of a government. Let's not debate protest signs. Now rather than rockets, I would love to see Gazans using nonviolent, democratic means to petition Israel to end the siege of their tiny strip of land. Unfortunately, Israel makes nonviolence impossible.

Gazans have no representation in the Israeli government that controls land, air, and sea access to basic necessities of life and dignity. For example, the conservative Knesset parliament just recently banned Arab parties from the upcoming elections and has historically barred them from joining coalition governments. The Israeli high court overturned the ban last week, but the anti-democracy sentiment still festers.

*I would like to have a coming out. In the last two years, I have come to identify as an anarchist and a humanist.*

Gazans have been collectively punished with a blockade since Israel's 2006 withdrawal of street troops and Merkava tanks. When they protest this policy at the border crossings, they get shot. When fishermen go out to sea, Israel's navy fires on them and detains their boats. Checkpoints at the border are reminiscent of crowded internment camps, complete with turnstiles, sniper towers, a prison wall, and guns pointed.

In addition to the naval attacks, the ceasefire determined in June between Israel and Hamas was violated by Israel on Nov. 4 via air raid preceding a tightening of the blockade to include food, medicine, fuel for electricity, and foreign journalists. During the ceasefire, Israeli intelligence admits that the less than 30 rockets fired from Gaza were by

rogue militants and not Hamas. Yet, it seems they were looking for any excuse to entrap Hamas into annihilation.

While Gazans were deprived of food and eventually clean water as sewage overflowed, relief workers declared a "humanitarian crisis" there. Limited electricity forced hospitals to ration life support equipment for infants. More than half the population relies on UN food distributions and could not receive it. Protests swelled up around the world opposing Israel's genocidal tactic of starvation. Hamas fired rockets in desperation with clear demands to open the checkpoints. President-elect Obama and his crew remained silent.

Then in late December, Israel air raided Gaza, the most densely populated land in the Middle East, with cluster bombs, white phosphorous shells and dime bombs paid for by U.S. military aid. After quickly running out of Hamas targets, they widened their aim to civilian targets including schools, mosques, universities, refugee camps, most government buildings, the courts, 25 schools, 20 ambulances, and several hospitals, as well as bridges, roads, 10 electricity-generating stations, sewage lines, and 1,500 factories, workshops, and shops.

By the end of the ground invasion, Israel had killed over 1,300 Gazans in three weeks, forcing

100,000 into refugeedom. In addition, 80 percent of all agricultural infrastructure and crops were destroyed while foreign journalists were banned from Gaza during the conflict, according to the Palestinian Authority.

Gadi Eisenkot, the head of Israel's northern command, clarified this strategy known as the Dahiya Doctrine after a Lebanese town obliterated in 2006: "What happened in the Dahiya quarter of Beirut in 2006 will happen in every village from which Israel is fired on. We will apply disproportionate force on it and cause great damage and destruction there. From our standpoint, these are not civilian villages, they are military bases. This is not a recommendation. This is a plan."

As the conservative Likud party sweeps into power in two weeks after the Israeli election and Obama increases the military budget and sends 20,000 more troops to Afghanistan, it is appropriate to ponder: will we ally ourselves with the oppressor or the oppressed? At what point do we oppose the US-Israeli killing machine? How violent does a government need to be to demand the burning of its flag? Do we pledge allegiance to the flag or to peoples' lives? This corporate government and our tiny votes just haven't cut it, so let's dissent and build something better.

## Crunch time for Congress

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Let's face it, our economy has taken a turn for the worse. It's not surprising that the economy is on everyone's mind. Americans are worried about housing costs, bank savings, car payments, college tuition, health care benefits, and their futures. Even before President Barack Obama's historic inauguration, talk about an economic stimulus was circulating throughout Washington D.C., on news shows, and in newspapers and magazines. Now it is a reality. The U.S. House is expected to vote this Wednesday on a massive stimulus package totaling \$825 billion. With such a drastic measure on the table we should ask ourselves and our lawmakers if this is the right approach.

The logic behind this stimulus plan is to pump billions of dollars into the economy with the goal of reviving it. This is an unwise choice. The idea of spending money we don't have just will not work. It would only fan the flames of disaster.

What is the problem? Well, the problem is the mere fact that the proposed billions of dollars are not actually available. The government's bank account does not have this chunk of money just waiting to be spent; the bank has run dry. The only way that Congress can inject \$825 billion into the economy is to tax Americans and borrow more money from our economy and from other countries. So in reality, there is not really any new "spending" money, but simply a pileup of more debt. In addition to taking money out of Americans' pockets, this stimulus plan would cause the U.S. to be increasingly indebted to other countries for years to come. The plan calls for \$550 billion in spending projects. According to the Congressional Budget Office, only a small portion of the \$355 billion intended to fund infrastructure projects will be used

before the end of 2010. The Congressional Budget Office also revealed \$2.3 billion not expected to be spent until 2019. These truths are startling. America needs immediate relief, not billions of dollars intended for two decades down the road. Irresponsible spending is one of the very reasons the U.S. is in this mess. House Minority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) revealed the overall flaw with the current stimulus package, "We can't borrow and spend our way to prosperity."

Our economy can be rescued if the right measures are implemented. Number one: the Congress ought to devote a majority of the stimulus money towards tax cuts for all Americans and private businesses, and prevention of raising new taxes. If the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts were made permanent an estimated \$130 billion more would be taken in and more than 1 million jobs would be created. Preventing new taxes from arising and creating tax cuts would allow Americans to hold onto more of their income. If the government takes less money out of your paycheck, you might use that extra money to spend, save, or invest in our economy. Of course spending is part of the solution, but it must be a limited part. Instead of one-third of the cost of the stimulus being for tax cuts and two-thirds of the cost for spending, it should be the other way around.

We are living in a time of stress and uncertainty. The United States has plunged into an economic tragedy unheard of since the Great Depression. For these reasons, America must think long and hard about the solutions being considered by the government. The decisions to be made in the coming weeks will have long-lasting effects that will reach all corners of the earth, be felt by Americans twenty-years from now, and become part of American history. Today, we have a chance to shape our futures; let's do it the right way.

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# Excitement in Development and Alumni Relations

## New VS of Development and Alumni Relations

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Last October the College hired a new Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, Connie L. Harris. Ms. Harris was hired in October but just started on campus this January. Before joining us at the College she was the Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC, since 2002.

In a letter to the College community, President Helm explained that the College conducted a national search for candidates for this position and out of that search fifty qualified applicants arose. Those fifty were then narrowed down to twelve, then six, and then from those six semi-finalists emerged three finalists. Those three applicants were then invited for a fourteen-hour, grueling interview schedule.

President Helm said that over the course of four days he received 127 e-mails detailing each candidates' interactions with the College community and finally Ms. Harris emerged as the most qualified applicant and was offered the position of VP of Development of Alumni Relations. "We are extremely excited about Connie joining us," said President Helm. "We interviewed many excellent candidates, and

Connie emerged as the person who can best continue our momentum and fundraising success." Ms. Harris said that she loves the strong sense of community and she has big changes for strengthening the departments of Development and Alumni Relations.

Ms. Harris is a graduate of Miami University of Ohio and has worked in several development positions at Earlham College and Wabash College, both also in Indiana. At Wabash she was Director of Major Gifts, Assistant Dean for College Advancement and Assistant Dean for Leadership Gifts. At Meredith, she successfully implemented and directed a campaign for Meredith called *A Leading Vision: The Campaign for Meredith*. The campaign raised \$41.5 million, exceeding the \$33.5 million goal.

At the College, Ms. Harris will oversee all Alumni and Development Operations, including Alumni Relations, the Muhlenberg Fund, the Leadership Gift Staff, Records and Research and Planned giving. The Talents Entrusted to our Care Campaign, which had made more than \$90 million with a goal of \$105 million by June 30, 2010, is in its concluding stages.

The College wishes to extend a warm welcome to Ms. Harris and is excited to see what plans and changes she has in store.

## New director of Alumni Relations

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Jennifer R. McLarin '86 is a graduate of the College and also the new Director of Alumni Relations! She graduated from the College in 1986 with a B.A. in English, and went on to work in the fields of public relations and marketing in St. Louis, MO and Chicago, IL. She then returned to the College in 2002 to work in the Office of Admissions as a member of the senior management team.

During her time working in admissions, Ms. McLarin actively worked with prospective students and their families in interviews and information sessions influencing and encouraging them to select the College.

In addition, she oversaw the creation and publication of the annual "Career Survey" brochure, which highlights what the College graduates are doing one year out of school. She also interviewed faculty and wrote for "Great Teachers/Great Courses" brochures.

As director of alumni relations, Ms. McLarin will mainly be responsible for planning and implementing programs and activities that engage the College's

alumni with their alma mater in ways that enhance the lives of its students, faculty, staff and graduates in order to strengthen the College.

"I am so delighted that Jenny will be joining our team," said Connie Harris, Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations. "She brings 20 years of strong experience to this senior role as an alumna who already has an 'insider' relationship with the College."

She continued, "Jenny is an outstanding professional whose commitment to excellence will strengthen the alumni relations and reunion fundraising areas. She brings an incredible passion

*"Jenny is an outstanding professional whose commitment to excellence will strengthen the alumni relations and reunion fundraising areas..."*

for the highest and best interests of Muhlenberg College and all constituencies."

Ms. McLarin was one of three highly qualified candidates for the position of Director of Alumni Relations.

The College wishes to congratulate her and also to extend a warm welcome to Ms. McLarin, would like to thank her for all the work she has done already, and looks forward to her further contributions to the College community.

## Three new endowed funds in Psychology

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Two alumni of the College, Wes and Dolores "Lori" Whitman recently attended the College's regional Campaign Kickoff event in Scottsdale, AZ. When they were both students they took a less traditional path to the College than most yet their ties to the College are stronger than ever. The Whitmans joined the Circle of 1848 in 2003 by designating funds in their estate plan to the psychology department.

Recently, they made a plan for specific endowment funds that will benefit the entire psychology department, including both its faculty and its students. Through a will provision, the Whitmans have established three types of endowment funds entitled, *The Wesley H. '74 and Dolores M. Whitman Endowed Chair of Psychology*; *The Wesley H. '74 and Dolores M. Whitman Endowed Scholarship*; and *The Wesley H. '74 and Dolores M. Whitman Psychology Department Endowed Fund*.

It was not until she discovered night school at the College that Lori realized that a college edu-

cation would be within her reach. "I grew up in Quakertown. Muhlenberg was the closest institution that offered night courses," she says. "It gave me the opportunity to go to school while working full-time."

Wes said, "I had no money for college when I left high school, but after we got married, Lori encouraged me to try night school at Muhlenberg. I took three night courses before quitting my job in structural steel design and drafting." Wes took a part-time job and enrolled in classes four nights a week, which equaled 12 credit hours or a full-time load, making him a part-time student, so he was surprised when he got a loan from the College to finance his education because it was unusual for part-time students to receive loans. He pursued a degree in psychology, and graduated from the College in 1974. Wes then earned his master's degree at Fairleigh Dickinson University and pursued a doctoral program at Stevens Institute of Technology, finishing all but his dissertation.

"When I was a student here," Wes said, "the psych department was located in the basement of




Ettinger. There was very little in the way of facilities: our lab was one little room. I made a promise that if there was ever anything I could do to help the psychology department, I would."

There is more to the Whitmans' gift than simply an endowed fund for the department. "We decided to establish a scholarship because neither one of us could afford to have an education right out of high school," said Lori. "We know there are others in the same situation." Lori and Wes both say that Muhlenberg's faculty were instrumental to their education, explaining the third portion of their gift which is an endowed faculty chair in psychology.

The Whitmans' gifts to the endowment through their estate plan qualify them for membership in the College's *Circle of 1848*. The *Circle* was founded in 1989 and has since had a sizeable impact on the quality of education that students receive. Membership is open to all of the College's alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends who name the College as a beneficiary in their estate plan, through their will, life insurance policy, trust or retirement plan.



## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
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# 2

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## OFF CAMPUS

### *A You-Tube Presidency*

Even before he was elected to the Office of the Presidency, Barack Obama told his aides that the transition of the technological "You-Tube-Facebook-texting" organization into an instrument of government was to be a top priority. President Obama, after beginning his career as a community organizer, has placed high emphasis on addressing the public directly.

Obama's aides, including his campaign manager, have come together to create a group called "Organizing for America." This organization, which will be housed in the Democratic National Committee instead of at the White House, will serve to redirect Obama's campaign machinery to serve the broad changes in healthcare, environmental policy and fiscal policy.

The organization envisions an army of supporters talking, e-mailing, and texting with friends in an attempt to mold public opinion, as was often done to support Obama during the election. The President himself, who is making efforts to bypass the mainstream media and send messages straight to the public, will put this into motion.

The first and most prominent of these efforts is apparent in President Obama's new strategy of weekly addressing the nation through recording a speech and uploading it not only to the White House Website, but to You Tube as well. In this public address, the President discussed what he plans to accomplish with the 825 billion dollar economic stimulus plan that is currently being discussed in Congress.

Obama's public strategy appears to be working well. This first address was uploaded to the Internet this past Saturday, and by Sunday afternoon it had been viewed over 600,000 times on You Tube alone.

Despite this early success, this form of public address and Organizing for America have their doubters. The organization's lack of a formal web site as of this past Monday has some of Obama's advisers questioning its "murky mission," as well as its similarities to the Obama for America campaign, which go beyond the conveniently identical initials, O.F.A. Critics, many of them news media advocates, are concerned with the ability of YouTube use to present the public directly and informally with unchallenged, governmental points of view.

While concerns about the White House venturing into the "Wild West of the Internet" have been raised, the initial goal of directly reaching the public has successfully kept our new President and his policies in the public eye.

### *Layoffs continue to increase*

As of Jan. 26, five high-employment American companies, Pfizer Inc., Sprint Nextel Corp., Home Depot, General Motors, and Caterpillar, released that they expect to cut over 30,000 jobs. Caterpillar alone, the largest maker of mining and construction equipment in the world, added 5,000 job cuts to their already climbing cutbacks, reaching totals of over 20,000.

Pfizer anticipates a total of 8,000 job cuts, and Sprint, which is the third largest wireless provider in the country, expects to cut 8,000 as well. Texas Instruments also said at the end of the day Monday that it would cut twelve percent of its workforce through layoffs and retirements.

These companies are merely a part of a worldwide increase in job cuts. This past Monday marked a total of more than 65,000 job cuts throughout the United States and around the world. These cuts are being seen as a dangerous sign that businesses, on the whole, are enduring a painful downturn.

Economic forecasters are thinking the worst; the latest report released from the National Association for Business Economics this week called for the worst business conditions in the United States since the early 1980s.

President Obama has acknowledged these layoffs, and addressed them through urging an 825 billion dollar economic stimulus package. The package consists of tax cuts, emergency benefits, and public spending projects.

Obama's administration has proposed to set aside 43 billion dollars to deal directly with the problem and to provide for new recipients of unemployment insurance as well as existing ones.

This proposal is largely based on estimates that the unemployment rate will reach 8.3 percent in 2010 and peak there, but many economists are expecting these rates to cross into the double-digits and are almost certain that this funding will not be enough. Unemployment rates have reached 7.2 percent in the past month.

"These are not just numbers on a page," the President said. "As with the millions of jobs lost in 2008, these are working men and women whose families have been disrupted and whose dreams have been put on hold. We owe it to each of them and to every single American to act with a sense of urgency and common purpose. We can't afford distractions and we cannot afford delays."

Information Courtesy of The New York Times

# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Gotthard - Psychology

By Jana Elfenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Gretchen Gotthard is a new addition to the faculty of the College. She received her BS in Psychology at the University of North Dakota and then completed some research at the University of Minnesota. Thereafter, she acquired her MA/Ph.D. in Biological Psychology from Kent State University.

Gotthard taught at Carleton College in Minnesota for two years as a visiting assistant professor and then at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Virginia as an associate professor. Gotthard really enjoyed working in a school environment because she found it very invigorating.

She decided to leave Randolph-Macon Woman's College because she was interested in the job offered by the College to work in both the Psychology and Neuroscience departments.

Gotthard is currently teaching four courses here at Muhlenberg College: Biological Psychology, Learning and Behavior, Introduction to Psychology, and Advanced Topics in Neuroscience.

She really enjoys her classes this semester and is already looking forward to next semester in which she will be teaching Learning and Behavior, Introduction to Psychology, and Brain and Behavior, which includes a lab.

She loves looking at psychological questions from a neuroscience perspective. She finds her work to be truly intriguing and stimulating.

She is currently researching the effects of memory-altering drugs on the memory and learning in rats. She comments, "My lab is busy collecting data, working on writing up a publication from data

collected last fall, getting ready to present at conferences in the spring semester, and designing studies to be carried out during the summer." Additionally, she is busy creating a new course, with Jeremy Tessiere, that will be offered in the fall for neuroscience majors.

She comments, "I have really enjoyed working with the friendly, and very motivated, students here (both in the day school and the Wescoe School)."

Gotthard lives fifteen minutes away from Allentown in Wescoville with her family. She has three young children and spends most of her free time with them. She has explored many of the kid-friendly parts of Allentown with her family and has really enjoyed all of its different facets.

She is extremely excited to be here at the College and truly relishes her time in her classes with all of her enthusiastic students.

The psychology department at the College has very detailed goals for the education of its students. The department hopes that, with an education in psychology, students will gain a greater understanding of human beings and think well and communicate effectively about human beings.

Goals also include exhibiting intrinsic motivation to learning about human beings, recognizing and understanding the roles of cultural and individual differences and commonalities, and gain knowledge and skills facilitating excellence in careers and graduate/professional study.

The College wishes to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Gotthard and looks forward to her further contributions and efforts in carrying out the mission that the department has for its students.

## Dr. Boyles - Business

By Jillian Bevacqua  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Dr. Trish Boyles is the Miers Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies and an Assistant Professor of Business in her second semester here at the College. She is currently teaching an Entrepreneurial Studies course for Business majors with a concentration in Entrepreneurship, as well as Business Policy and Strategy, a senior capstone course also for Business majors.

As an undergraduate at Appalachian State University, Dr. Boyles double-majored in Philosophy and Religion Studies and English Literature. She recalls these years of study fondly, acknowledging that they still impact much of the work she does today.

Her interest in entrepreneurial studies began with her work on her MBA, which she received from Western Carolina University, where she conducted extensive research on the topic. She also received her Ph.D. in Management from Virginia Tech, where she focused on the exploration of "human resources as a strategic element of organizations."

In combining these two research topics, Dr. Boyles found her calling in the study of business and the people, particularly the entrepreneur, involved in it. "Entrepreneurship is a context in which some of the most creative ideas of our time are not only expressed, but... shared by millions," she explained. She enjoys the interdisciplinary nature of the program, and believes that a liberal arts college is the perfect place for it to be studied.

This belief stems from her teaching experience prior to working

here at the College. She taught at Western Carolina University and Virginia Tech as she pursued her degrees, and found that experiences at such large schools taught her that a smaller college community would be a better fit for her. Primarily, she wanted to develop meaningful relationships with both students and colleagues as well as to pursue her own interdisciplinary interests.

Dr. Boyles has high hopes for the Entrepreneurial studies program here at the College, and hopes to make strides in its development over the course of this semester and the next academic year. In the fall, she will teach the Entrepreneurial Studies course once again, along with a writing-intensive Management course.

In her spare time, Dr. Boyles is both an athlete and a cook who also enjoys writing and never tires of learning new things.

Currently, she has an interest in studying the history and business of both rap and hip-hop music and the tattoo industry, and would thoroughly enjoy an opportunity to study them with interested students.

In addition to appreciating her interactions with established faculty members here at the College, Dr. Boyles also enjoys the wider Allentown area. She considers herself relatively new to the city, but so far she is enjoying living with her partner in West Allentown, just a few blocks from campus.

Dr. Boyles looks forward to getting to know the College community better over the course of this semester and into the future. The College is proud to call her a part of this community and looks forward to her further contributions within it.

# New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

Email

kf235779@muhlenberg.edu OR jb236317@muhlenberg.edu



# More 2009 Inauguration Photos!



Have you ever wondered what a crowd of two million people looks like? If so, here you go.



A view from the National Mall during the inauguration.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW HOWARD

## Campus Safety Notes

Jan. 19 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transport - There was a sick student in Brown Hall with alcohol related vomiting. MCEMS, Health Center, and Allentown EMS were called. Student was transported to the hospital and was cited for underage drinking.

Jan. 19 - Found Property - Reporting party on Chew St. found a small bag in front of the Center for the Arts. It tested positive for cocaine.

Jan. 19 - Larceny/Theft - There was an off-campus report of a college cell phone stolen from a vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

Jan. 19 - Found Property - A found wallet has been at the Life Sports Center and has been there for the last three days. The owner could not be reached. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Jan. 19 - Found Property - A reporting party turned in a found credit card. The item has been placed in the lost and found lockers.

Jan. 19 - Fire Alarm Sounding - There was a fire

alarm sounding at 2201 Chew St. due to cooking.

Jan. 20 - Lost Property - Student lost cell phone on campus.

Jan. 21 - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia - A reporting party requested an officer to respond to drug paraphernalia that was found lying out on a desk at 2135 Chew St. The item has been placed in the evidence lockers. Students were referred to Judicial.

Jan. 21 - Attempted Theft - In the Martin Luther parking lot, a student reported that a car was parked in the lot when the window was down. The student tried to put the window up but it fell off the track and into the door. It was reported that the window was closed the last time the car was used. Nothing seemed to be missing.

Jan. 21 - Injured Student - A student injured their left ankle at the basketball court in the Life Sports Center. The student refused medical treatment.

Jan. 22 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm in Haas sounded. It was caused by electrical work

being done in the building.

Jan. 22 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm at 319 N. 22 St. sounded due to cooking.

Jan. 22 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm at 407/109 N. 23 St. sounded due to cooking.

Jan. 23 - Harassment - A car was sent to 2411 Liberty St. for a loud person yelling. The person was warned by APD to earlier to leave. Letters of no contact will be issued. Referred to Judicial.

Jan. 23 - Injured Student - A student fell after tripping on a dip or hole in the floor outside the Price Waterhouse Room (Ettinger 212) on way to class there. The student ripped their shoe and felt sore, but wasn't injured.

Jan. 23 - Vandalism to Vehicle - Student witnessed a passenger in a dull light blue station wagon with Pennsylvania plates get out and smash the driver's side window of a BMW parked on 23 St. The man (possibly Hispanic) was wearing a brightly-colored hoodie and matching dark hat with different colors. The male reached into the car and

apparently grabbed something before taking off in the suspect's car. Unable to locate suspects.

Jan. 23 - Larceny/Theft - In Moyer Hall on the third floor, a white male might have stolen a black Nine West purse from the victim's office. The suspect has short, dirty blond hair with a normal haircut. The suspect was approximately 5' 10" - 6' tall, dressed in neat, appropriate attire. Unable to locate suspect.

Jan. 23 - Larceny/Theft - A parking sticker was stolen from a vehicle on the 26 and Chew St. parking lot. There are no suspects at this time.

Jan. 23 - Fire Alarm System Trouble Sounding - Residents in Benfer Hall, second floor, accidentally set off detector due to throwing pillows around when one hit the detector. There was no further incident.

Jan. 23 - Drug Possession - Marijuana - On N. 21 St, there was a reported vehicle stop/drug possession. Three non-students were involved. All three were arrested by Allentown PD. No further information on

the arrested.

Jan. 24 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm sounded at 415, 417, and 419 N. Leh St due to cooking.

Jan. 24 - Institutional Vandalism - Temporary signs on the front drive were ripped out and thrown on the lawn. There are no suspects on this time.

Jan. 24 - Dispatch Code - Found Property - A backpack was found in front of Seegers Union. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Jan. 25 - Vandalism - Criminal/Malicious Mischief - APD was called to N. Leh St. for loud noise. Upon arrival the group was gone.

Jan. 25 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - While investigating a call for loud noise on Liberty St. a student was arrested by APD for underage drinking. The student was cited and released.

Jan. 25 - Alarms - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm at 2201 Chew St. from steam from a shower.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"The purpose of life is a life of purpose."

- Robert Byrne

## Have you ever punched a three-year-old?

By Ben Levine  
WEEKLY LIFE! EDITOR

For a person sitting at home on a Friday night there is a ray of hope. His name is Joel McHale and his show is "The Soup." Have your plans fallen through? No problem. The viewer's stomach will be left feeling like a punching bag Mike Tyson just pulverized – and it's a good thing. "The Soup" is a clip show making fun of recent popular culture, which leaves the average viewer embarrassed that people actually watch this stuff.

The show consists of McHale in front of a green screen (on which the clips are played) with an audience of a few interns and their friends. The beauty of the show is that anybody can jump in at any time with limited to no knowledge of whom or what he is talking about and be able to laugh.

Unlike most comedians, Joel McHale's jokes are funny because of his delivery. This gives him the ability to say pretty much anything and still leave his audience rolling on the ground, holding their sides.

Ever since the announcement of his arrival on campus, there has been a palpable buzz. Many have voiced skepticism that his humor would not be able to translate into a classic stand-up show. However, when McHale took the stage, he took off exactly where he left off on "The Soup."

He got up on stage attired plainly in a hoodie and jeans. The only flashy part of his appearance was his silver shoes. After being introduced by two Muhlenberg students, Kristin Kettig '11 and Andrew Horrow '10, as "the former head of NAMBLA," he jumped onto the stage energetically. He was able to maintain the energy throughout the show, electrifying the crowd. Those who watch "The Soup" were not disappointed. The only downside to his show was that his jokes followed too closely the jokes on "The Soup."

Monday night, he started by pointing out the lack of racial diversity at the College, calling it the "whitest college in Pennsylvania" and pointing out that "everyone is from [New] Jersey." He then began to ridicule the choice of a mule as a

mascot, calling it "the unholy union between a horse and a donkey which renders the poor animal sterile." He went on to say "basically the Muhlenberg mascot is a genetically sterile freak."

One of his favorite topics was himself and his family.

According to McHale, his grandfather, who he sarcastically referred to as "smart," migrated from Finland to Alaska and opened the first meth lab in Juneau.

He then compared his mother-in-law, who sounds like a "pre-op transvestite" or "Buffalo Bill from 'Silence of the Lambs'," to his mother, who sounds like a "gay man on 'Project Runway'."

Like a good comedian, he was able to tap into something that everyone feels, but doesn't always bring it up. His mother-in-law would fish for compliments by belittling her food, while his mother would say her food was good while trying to get others

to agree with her. Everyone has experienced one or the other, which allows for a funnier delivery. His son Eddie was another favorite topic. He spoke about the roller coaster of hope and despair a parent experiences when it comes to his kids.

He said he watches his son put a puzzle together in two minutes and believes he'll be the President, and then he watches him put a vacuum in his mouth and worries that he is mentally retarded. On Halloween, he dressed his son, Eddie, as a light switch, because that's what he wanted to be, of course. However, the strap was too long so the switch was inappropriately low.

He also brought up how hard it is to deal with a demanding child and questioned how dumb he really is. For instance, Eddie got his father to buy him a big box of blueberry waffles even though McHale knew his son hated blueberries. McHale then

asked the crowd facetiously, "Have you ever punched a three-year-old?"

He also spoke about sibling interaction. One night he walked in on Eddie in his brother's crib opening up his newborn brother's eyes, saying, "I want to see his new eyes!"

Even his wife was a part of his jokes. He contrasted the body of a pregnant woman as an F-14 to the body of a man as toy fire truck with one button for the lights.

McHale also pointed out the absurdity of Las Vegas. Despite the many things that could happen, his hotel (THE Hotel) did not allow coffee makers because they might cause a fire that would burn down the entire hotel. Later, he journeyed into the "booby pool," which he paid fifty dollars to get into. When he got there, there were only 4 women (who were greatly

SEE MCHALE  
PAGE 12



Joel McHale entertaining students in Memorial Hall.

PHOTO BY ROSS LITMAN



# On the rebound

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

After a relationship ends, it can be hard to completely get over it, especially if you were the one on the receiving end of the bad news. People use many tactics to help themselves get over past relationships; a rebound relationship is one of those tactics.

Rebound relationships can happen both intentionally and unintentionally and they are often short-lived hookups. Sometimes a person just wants to feel loved for a short amount of time until they've gathered their self-esteem back up.

Other times, a person may convince themselves that they genuinely are interested in the person he or she is using as a rebound until they suddenly realize the truth. The rebound gives false hope and expectations only to dissappoint. This is both unfair and unfortunate, and it may even lead to the rebound starting up a rebound relationship with someone else.

People seek out rebound

relationships not only when they are the person dumped, but also if they are the person who broke up with their significant other. Both people in a relationship can be affected when a relationship ends, especially if it ended because of a circumstance such as distance.

The result of a rebound relationship for the person seeking one out, though, often helps them to sort out their feelings. One usually knows either that they are completely over their ex or that they're not at all. Although it's positive that their thoughts are clearer, it comes at the expense of the other person.

One alternative to rebound relationships is just waiting it out and concentrating on academics or friendships. Spending the majority of your energy on things like school can not only improve your grades but also distract you while your mind

adjusts to the single life.

You could also concentrate on being a good friend or making new friends. Your social life may need to be patched up a bit anyway if you're not the best at multitasking relationships and friendships.

When it comes to the weekend, though, it's not always desirable to stay inside and study for an Italian test. An alternative to this is rebound dates and hookups, but not a relationship.

With hookups, both people get what they want out of the night - physical interaction - and neither is invested enough to be upset when it ends.

If you're not that type of person, going on small dates is also a good way to take your mind off things. That way, the other person isn't involved enough to be upset when you two don't go on a second date.

Sometimes a rebound relationship can turn into a real relationship if given enough time. This is very rare since the person look-

ing for the rebound is usually not very selective when it comes to choosing one. It's also a bit risky because the person originally looking for the rebound may not have had enough time to develop themselves as a person.

They risk being very vulnerable if the next relationship ends badly for them. Despite its rarity, though, it's not completely impossible.

Rebound relationships are not the only option to getting over an ex, and they can be very detrimental to the other person involved.

Despite the benefits of sorting out one's thoughts, it's not fair to the other person who involves their feelings and ends up hurt.

The small chance that it might work out isn't worth the risk and damage to those around you. So when you're dumped like garbage, don't treat someone else the same way.

Rather than getting a rebound, really drunk, a gun, or filing a complaint with campus safety, find something else to blow off some steam.



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

### WHAT COULD YOU NOT DO WITHOUT AT MUHLENBERG?



"Poptarts!"  
- Scott Kanner, '12



"My scarf."  
- Andrew Lacek, '12



"My awesome, comfortable, Abercrombie & Fitch bed and my computer."  
- James Gravener, '12



"People calling me a ginger (lovingly)."  
- Lauren Pappacena, '12



"Guitar."  
- Jonathan Morgan, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Marley & Me

Fri. 4:10, 7:00, 9:50  
Sat. 4:10, 7:00, 9:50  
Sun. 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

### Taken

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

### Hotel for Dogs

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

### Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Fri. 5:10, 7:45, 10:15  
Sat. 5:10, 7:45, 10:15  
Sun. 5:10, 7:45, 10:15

### Underworld: The Rise of the Lycans

Fri. 5:20, 7:50, 10:20  
Sat. 5:20, 7:50, 10:20  
Sun. 5:20, 7:50, 10:20

### Bride Wars

Fri. 4:40, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:40, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:40, 6:50, 9:30

### The Unborn

Fri. 5:00, 7:20, 9:40  
Sat. 5:00, 7:20, 9:40  
Sun. 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

# Master Choreographers mount new works

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The Department of Theatre and Dance presents its annual *Master Choreographers* dance concert in the Empie Theatre February 5 through February 7 at 8pm and an additional show on February 7 at 2pm. Tickets are 5 dollars for students and can be purchased in the Box Office.

This concert features dance pieces in range of styles, from classical ballet to modern dance and tap. Under Artistic Director Karen Dearborn, Muhlenberg College faculty and guest artists present original choreography showcasing the talents of student dancers in a professional caliber setting.

Concert highlights include choreography by internationally recognized guest artists Meredith Rainey and Charlotte Boye-Christensen.

Rainey, of Philadelphia's Ballet X, premieres a contemporary ballet titled "Before They Fall." Danish choreographer Charlotte Boye-Christensen, Associate Artistic Director of Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company in Salt Lake City, Utah, returns to Muhlenberg to set a modern dance on a cast of seven women.

Faculty choreographers include Karen Dearborn, Charles O. Anderson, Corrie Franz Cowart, and Kathleen Bibalo.

Shelly Oliver is an internationally recognized tap dancer and runs a com-

prehensive jazz-tap program at Muhlenberg.

Her pieces collaborating with jazz composer David Leonhardt are always a unique crowd pleasing finale for the years most prestigious dance event.

This year Oliver is the recipient of the an award from LVAIC Dance Consortium for her work enriching the dance community not just at Muhlenberg but the across the region.



Samantha Jonson '09, Meghan Meehan '09, and Olivia Wingerath '09 in Shelly Oliver's "Bach to the Blues" (top) and Jeremy Arnold '12, and Lauren Montella '09 in Corrie Cowart's "Que Sera Sera" (left) performing in *Master Choreographers*.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW WRIGHT

**JUST CHARGE IT!**



**Garden Room, GQ, and the Life Sports Center Cafe are now accepting credit cards!**








# This Week on Campus

Looking for something to do this week?  
Go check out some of the fun things  
that the College has to offer. It's close,  
fun and wallet friendly!

## Thursday, Jan. 29

- "Doing Something Different" Panel
- 7:00pm in Seegers Great Room
  - Hear from Muhlenberg alumni about their unique post-graduate experiences
  - For more information, contact Susan Schartel at x3170 or email her at [schartel@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:schartel@muhlenberg.edu)

## Friday, Jan. 30

- Snowtubing at Bear Creek
- 7:00pm - 10:00pm at Bear Creek
  - Bus leaves CA at 6:00pm and departs Bear Creek at 10:15pm
  - Admission is \$10
  - Limited to 45 students
  - Sign up in the Student Life Suite across from the Red Door
  - For more information, contact Lee Kolbe at x3562
- X-Box 360 Domination Extreme
- 9:00pm - Midnight at Seegers Red Door
  - Free admission
  - Play DDR, Guitar Hero, Madden '09, Halo 3, Rock Band, Wii Fit, and Wii Sports
  - For more information, contact Bev MacEwan at x3958

## Saturday, Jan. 31

- Student Performers
- 9:00pm - Midnight at Seegers Red Door
  - Free admission
  - Come see Jim Lehrer News Hour, Look-a-Likes, and Victor's Lament
  - For more information, contact Leanne Hill at x3657 or email her at [lhill@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:lhill@muhlenberg.edu)

## Monday, Feb. 2

- Queer in the Classroom
- 6:30pm - 7:30pm at the Multicultural Center
  - Dr. Elisabeth Landeson will discuss queer theory in the classroom
  - Refreshments will be served
  - For more information, contact Robin Riley-Casey at x3228 or email her at [riley-casey@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:riley-casey@muhlenberg.edu)

# More McHale!

McHALE | FROM PAGE 9

enhanced) and 30 men with tattoos which he ridiculed with hilarity on stage.

Ryan Seacrest was the butt of many jokes as well, particularly pertaining to his height and voice.

He did give Seacrest credit for his ability to juggle an extremely busy schedule, stating that "[Seacrest] couldn't make it because he was performing a bris in Philadelphia." He also talked about the hate mail he receives from celebrities for doing segments on them on "The Soup."

His favorite was Tyra Banks, "the narcissist who talks about herself for an hour every day," who was the only person who ever tried to stop him from covering her show.

McHale clearly proved himself to be a student of the art of stand-up and not just a talking head at a network. He was able to push the limits of what is taboo in our society,

while not being distasteful, and went into familiar subjects in comedy without sounding like a health-class video beating you over the head.

He was able to use jokes which insisted upon the listener to check within their own morals and the morals of our society (through television), without sounding overly preachy, and then caused them to laugh at the absurdity of the things Americans watch.

He pointed out that "The Hills" stars were on the cover of Rolling Stone a few months before Barack Obama. However, like a true comedian, he left the audience thinking "that was funny, but is that funny because it's true or tragic." Beneath McHale's jokes, there seemed to be an anxiety about the people Americans choose as their celebrities. Is this a reflection on society or a few people the rest of us can laugh at while patting ourselves on the back for not being like them?



Joel McHale left the whole audience rolling in the aisles.

PHOTO BY ROSS LITMAN

# NHL midseason power rankings

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

## 1. Boston Bruins (34-8-5, 73 points)

Having a couple of wins this week, the Bruins remain atop the NHL standings, though still two games ahead of the Sharks. Nonetheless, the Bruins are still the best team in this league. Playing tough hockey every night, they go into every game with a great chance to win. This team does not have off nights.

## 2. San Jose Sharks (34-6-5, 73 points)

The Sharks are still a bit inconsistent, relative to how consistent they should be with their dominant team. But they are one of the best teams in the league this season. Arguably, they are the best in the West.

## 3. Detroit Red Wings (31-9-6, 68 points)

The Red Wings had a bad week leading into the All Star break, especially now that Pavel Datsyuk dropped out of the game with an injury concern. The Wings will take this much needed break as a sign that it is time to make another fast run to the playoffs. They cannot sink in the last month like they did last season.

## 4. Calgary Flames (28-14-4, 60 points)

Western Canada is pumped up with the fact that their team could finally be the one to bring the Stanley Cup back to Canada this year. Of course, they have a tough road ahead of them, with both Detroit and San Jose ahead in the standings. They are looking like the favorite to win the always tough Northwest, but after the season, it's anybody's game.

## 5. Washington Capitals (30-15-3, 63 points)

America's capital is jacked up after the most historic inauguration in history. The team has responded, playing very good hockey. Can anyone say inspiration?

## 6. New Jersey Devils (29-15-3, 61 points)

The Devils have shocked the hockey world as to how they are playing so well without hall of fame goaltender Marty Brodeur. However, they are indeed playing phenomenally, and their record shows it. First in the Atlantic ain't bad.

## 7. Montreal Canadiens (27-13-6, 60 points)

Les Canadiens are ready for the All Star break! Look for the festivities to pump the team up and ready them for an explosive second half of the season.

## 8. Philadelphia Flyers (25-12-9, 59 points)

The Flyers are just as inconsistent as ever, but are still playing like one of the top teams in the East. When they play to their potential. Most teams can't beat them. But it does not happen often.

## 9. Chicago Blackhawks (25-12-8, 58 points)

After a tough loss in the Winter Classic, the Hawks have found their way. Although 5-4-1 in their last ten is a bit dismal, they are still playing well, and look to challenge the Wings for the Central Division lead come half number two.

## 10. New York Rangers (28-16-4, 60 points)

Rangers are still playing pretty well. Although a bit inconsistent, when you are playing in the Atlantic Division, it is a valid excuse. However, they are still one of the elite teams in the league.

## 11. Buffalo Sabres (24-18-5, 53 points)

Buffalo is hot as of recent, going 7-3 in their last ten games. They are looking to rise up the standings, and challenge the Canadiens, only seven points ahead.

## 12. Phoenix Coyotes (24-19-5, 53 points)

Gretzky and the Cats (another good band name...are Coyotes felines? Eh well, this is a hockey site, not National Geographic) are playing extremely well. The youngest team in the NHL are coming up big, and are being inspired by the Great One.

## 13. Columbus Blue Jackets (22-20-5, 49 points)

Hitchcock's young and talented team is faltering as of recent, but they are holding on to a record above .500.

## 14. Edmonton Oilers (24-19-3, 51 points)

Edmonton should be playing better than they are. They are still in a playoff spot, but they could have a bunch more wins. Coaching, anyone?

## 15. Carolina Hurricanes (23-20-5, 51 points)

Paul Maurice has grabbed this team and propelled them into a playoff spot. The only question, though, is if they can hold onto it for another few months.

## 16. Minnesota Wild (23-20-3, 49 points)

Just outside the playoff race (two points), Minnesota has their work cut out for them. They are a capable team, but their defense needs to come up big for them.

## 17. Vancouver Canucks (22-19-7, 51 points)

Vancouver is currently in the playoffs, but are not playing so well. 2-4-4 in their last ten will not get them a spot in the postseason. They need some goals, and fast.

## 18. Anaheim Ducks (23-21-5, 51 points)

Barely in the playoff race, the Ducks' defense is not coming up as big as it has the past few seasons. The departure of Brian Burke seems to have left a big hole in the organization, one that needs to be fixed quickly.

## 19. Florida Panthers (21-17-8, 50 points)

Just one point and two games behind eighth place Carolina, the Panthers are one of the big surprises of the season. Perhaps they will not need to trade Bouwmeester this year...

## 20. Pittsburgh Penguins (23-21-4, 50 points)

Pittsburgh is still doing extremely poorly as of recent. 4-6 in their last ten is not what the team wants. A team with Crosby, Malkin, Fleury, Whitney, and more should not be sitting in tenth place looking into the playoff race.

## 21. Dallas Stars (20-18-7, 47 points)

Dallas is slowly moving up the standings after being in last place early on in the year. They are 5-3-2 in their last ten games, and playing much better than they were. They need to improve their play on the road, though.

## 22. Los Angeles Kings (19-20-7, 45 points)

Although they are in thirteenth place in the West, the Kings have been playing fairly well as of recent. Their young defensive corps is coming up big when needed. They still have tons of work to do, including assimilating goaltending prospect Jonathan Bernier into the NHL.

## 23. Colorado Avalanche (23-23-1, 47 points)

Colorado is not playing well. Four wins in their last ten games, a losing record on the road, and only 47 points, the loss of captain Joe Sakic has not helped their cause. They need a miracle.

## 24. Nashville Predators (20-23-3, 43 points)

With so many distractions, including the money scandal with "Boots", the charade with Jim Balsillie, and the fact that their team still stinks, the Preds are sitting second to last in the West, and not looking good.

## 25. Toronto Maple Leafs (17-22-8, 42 points)

Oy gevalt. Oh wait, this is Brian Burke.

## 26. Tampa Bay Lightning (16-21-10, 42 points)

Seen Stamkos? No really, have you seen him? He is horrible.

## 27. St. Louis Blues (19-23-4, 42 points)

Last place in the West, but still better than five Eastern Conference teams, it shows how tough the Western Conference is, and how close it really is. They are only nine points out of a playoff spot.

## 28. Ottawa Senators (16-21-7, 39 points)

Crrrraaaassssshhhhh. Just like that plane in the Hudson.

## 29. Atlanta Thrashers (17-26-5, 39 points)

Koval-who? I hope he improves, I bet on the fact that he would score 70 goals. God, I'm dumber than Rick Tocchet.

## 30. New York Islanders (13-29-5, 31 points)

Once again, the debate begins...Tavares or Hedman?

Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report and the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers' section; a writer for Prohockeynews.com and Insidehockey.com, he is also the co-host of NHL 2Day, a weekly radio show on Youcastr.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com.

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## Lady Mules fall in a close one

By Daniel Wayne  
WEEKLY SPORTS EDITOR

On Monday, January 26th, the Woman's Basketball team was forced to realize the cruel reality of sports: sometimes you win, sometimes you lose.

The team traveled to Reading, PA to take on the Alvernia University Crusaders. In a well-fought battle, the Mules fell 71 - 67 and received their first loss in this season's Centennial Conference play.

Leading at halftime 29 - 28, the Mules kept the lead until, with nine minutes to go, the Crusader went on a 14 point run. Muhlenberg's offense did not respond and after Alvernia made 10 of their last 13 shots, the game was to far out of reach.

Leading the Mules was freshman Alexandra Chili. Her 27 points, including six three-pointers, helped the team stay close.

With her three-pointers against Alvernia, Chili is within four three-pointers of the Centennial Conference freshman record.

"Her offensive presence on the floor has taken pressure off of other key players and this helps our shooters get open more," says manager Eric Boskey.

Another high point for the team in the loss was sophomore Sheila Cook's performance. Scoring 16 points and grabbing 12 rebounds, Cook recorded her first collegiate double-double.

Senior Erin McSherry blocked a total of six Crusaders' shots and tied the Muhlenberg school record.

"Physically, we were the better team," adds Boskey, "but we were not mentally there down the stretch. We gave [Alvernia] many second chances."

The Lady Mules next take on Wed., Jan. 28 against Ursinus College Bears.



Sophomore Kelly McKeon and the Mules have stiff armed the competition.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Perfection. Record. Win.

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Any team can get a win when they play at the top of their game. When shots are falling, calls are in your favor, and the ball just seems

to bounce your way, wins are easy to come by. But the difference between average teams and great teams is the ability to win games when your game is not at its peak. On Monday, the Muhlenberg Men's Basketball Team did just that, winning on the road at Swarthmore. In a crucial game against the Centennial Conference last-place team, the Mules struggled from the field. For the game, the Mules shot only 34% from the field, as opposed to Swarthmore who shot 43%. From behind the arc, the Mules were only 26% compared to Swarthmore's 33%. So how did the Mules end up defeating the hosts? How did the Mules find a way to win? Well here's a hint: They did what Shaq, the 2008 Memphis Tigers, and the Orlando Magic's Nick Anderson could not do...they made their free throws.

For the entire game, yes the entire game, the Mules were perfect from the free throw line. As a team, they hit a mind-boggling 26 free throws out of 26 attempts. Their performance shattered the previous school record for best free-throw shooting performance. The previous record was in place since 1944, when the Mules went 12-12 against West Virginia. The perfect 26 also rewrote the Centennial Conference record book, replacing a 21-21 effort by Ursinus in 2003. Leading the free throw clinic was junior Ryan Foster, who went 11-11 from the line for a game and had a career high 25 points. Sophomore Evan Tozer, a free throw line hero from earlier in the week, went 6-6. Freshman Spencer Liddic went 3-3, juniors Pete Barnes and Brian Frankoski were both 2-2, and senior Chris McIntosh was also 2-2, adding up to the 26 free throws. When asked about the free throw performance, sophomore Dave Gwyn simply responded, "26 for 26 is 26 for 26- end of game." Gwyn also pointed out the most important part of the free throw performance: it gave the Mules the win.

The win at Swarthmore ended a critical three-game road trip for the Mules, which they finished with a 2-1 record. The other win came against Dickinson, where the visiting Mules overcame serious foul-trouble for the big win. And guess what sealed that win as well? Free throws, free throws, and more free throws. Against Dickinson it was Tozer leading the free throw barrage, as he finished the game 8-8 from the line, including 6-6 in the final 31 seconds of the game. Tozer and Liddic tied for second on the team in scoring behind reserve junior Obi Nwizugbo, whose 13 points on

only 9 shots led the team. The 2-1 week leaves the Mules at 9-7 overall, and 5-5 in the Centennial. As of Tuesday, the Mules were tied for fifth place in the conference for Ursinus, who will enter Scotty Wood for a key conference game Wednesday night. Repeating perfection, or rewriting the history books once again on Wednesday would be nice, but the Mules are far more interested in simply getting the W.



Freshman Spencer Liddic was a perfect 3-3 from the line in the Mule's last game.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE



**Katz'**

**Korner**

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

# IM Week 1: 10 Thoughts to Chew On

Opening night, although a little crazy, was certainly a memorable night for all its participants. The packed crowds in the Field House saw 12 games and almost all of the 22 teams take the court. While the first two days have answered a lot of the preseason question marks about the league, the marathon season has barely reached the first turn. Nonetheless, here's a list of observations and notes from the first two days of action. A list of ten statements to think about it, ten thoughts to keep you busy throughout class and the non-Intramural hours of the day; a list of ten thoughts to chew on:

1. Team Wish is as good as advertised. The preseason favorites are off to a 3-0 start, winning by an average score of 83-53.
2. The B league champion will have to go through the Boats N Stoges squad.
3. Game of the Year may have already been deter-

mined. It's hard to imagine a game being more exciting than the double overtime thriller between the Sea Turtles and Razorbacks.

4. No team will attempt more than three pointers than Kon Tiki

5. Freshman Mark "Coatesville" Mounayar will be in the Field House for every single game of the season.

6. SoFrosh and SoClean may have the best name in the league and may also have a chance to win it.

7. Senior Joe Caporoso's buzzer-beater and game winner will be one of the best shots of the season

8. The highly anticipated matchup between the ManBearPigs and the FootBallers will be the most physical game in Intramural history.

9. The newly established Women's Intramural program appears to be a huge success.

10. Junior Michael Peischl will never, ever, ever stop talking and complaining.

## College Housing is Closing for SPRING BREAK!



All college owned houses, apartments and Residence halls are closing on **Friday, February 27th at 6:00 p.m.** and will reopen on **Sunday March 8th at 10:00 a.m.!**

There will be *no* access before 10:00 a.m.

The Only Students Permitted to Stay on Campus Are:

- International Students
- Students Living More than 300 Miles Away
- Athletes with WRITTEN Permission from their Coach
- Student Teachers



If you do not fall into these categories and you are approved to stay, there is a \$25.00 per day charge. A "Request To Stay Over Break Form" must be submitted by every student who stays including those students falling into the above categories. Forms are available online at:

[www.muhsenbergl.edu/mgt/resserv](http://www.muhsenbergl.edu/mgt/resserv)

and are due by Monday, February 19th. Late requests will be subject to a \$25.00 fine. If you have any questions please call our office at x3180.

*Please make your travel plans accordingly.*



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# Class of '09 enters record books

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Apparently the Muhlenberg Women's Basketball Team enjoys rewriting the history books. Whether it is personal records or team accomplishments, the current team seems to be breaking far more than their share of school records. Earlier this season, senior Erin McSherry broke the school record for most career blocks, and on Monday she tied her own school record of 6 blocks in a game. Freshman Alexandra Chili is on pace to demolish the season three point record very shortly, and already holds the record for most three pointers in a game. Senior Lauren Boyle is moving her way towards the top spot in career points, and sophomore Kelly McKeon is climbing up the career assists total as well. With a Conference record of 11-1, the Mules have already broken the school record for best Conference start, and are only the fourth team in the history of the Centennial Conference to begin 10-0 in Conference play. But the best record, the most important record broken this year, was set by the seniors. In their comeback win against Haverford, the class of 2009 became the winningest class in school history.

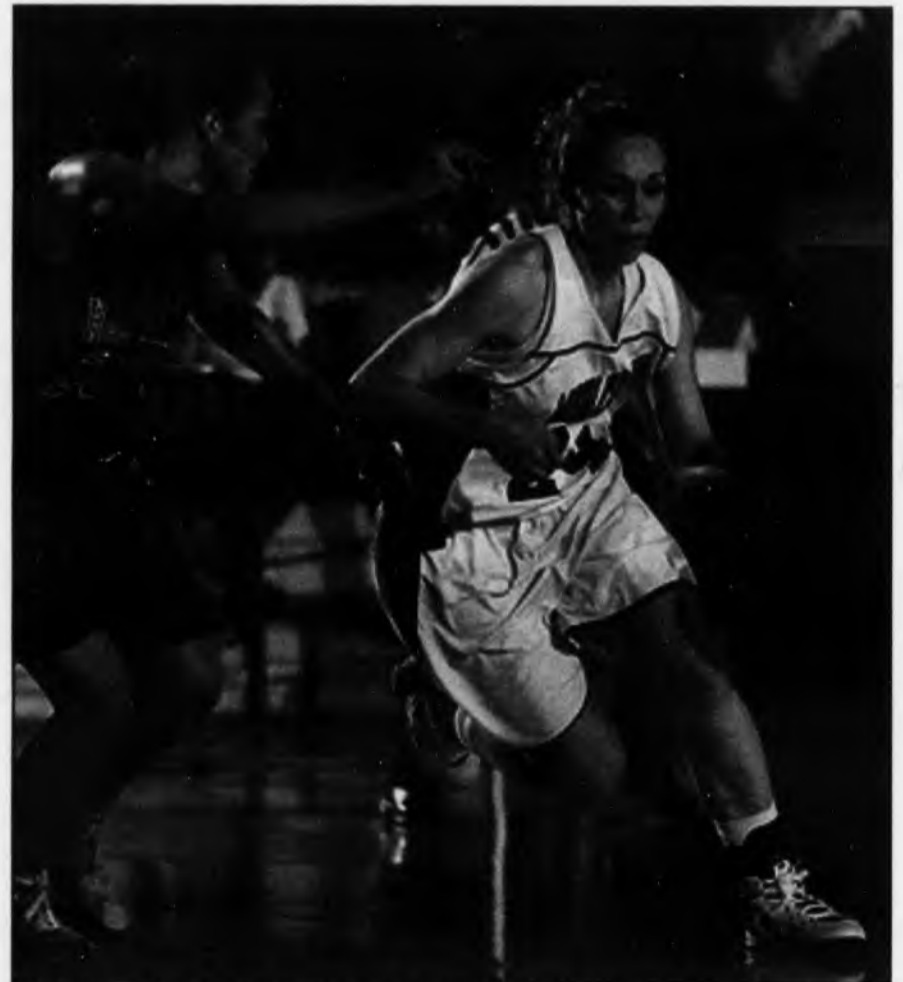
Joining Boyle and McSherry in the senior class are Bethany Enderline

and Kaitlin Strumph, and this fivesome has won more career games than any class has before. With a current record of 80-20, the class of 2009 still has another 8 regular season games plus the postseason. The class has been led by Boyle, who currently sits third in all-time scoring with 1,323 career points. Boyle has been named to the First Team All-Centennial Conference team the past two seasons. McSherry led the Conference in blocks last year, and has consistently been one of the leading rebounders as well. Enderline and Strumph have both been key role players for the Mules despite nagging injuries plaguing them.

With a current league record of 11-1, the class of 2009 is well on its way to winning yet another Conference championship. In their past three seasons, the Mules have finished 14-4, 12-6, and 16-2 in Conference play, with two Conference championships as well. Obviously these five players were only a part of the larger team puzzle, and their success is also a contribution to alumni like Meghan Courtney and Kristen Piscadlo, as well as to the younger players on the current team, such as Chili, McKeon, and junior Alexis Bates. Nonetheless, the title of winningest class in school history belongs to the class of 2009.



Left: Freshman Alexandra Chili moves past a futile Haverford defender



Right: Senior Lauren Boyle has scored 1,250 points in her collegiate career.

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 14

Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2009

# New College policy on disruptive conduct

By Eirinn Disbrow  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Last semester President Helm addressed the College due to an increase in inappropriate student behavior which was affecting other members of the Allentown community. At the Muhlenberg Area Community Watch meeting that occurred last Fall, neighbors of the surrounding area voiced their complaints which included loud parties late at night, drunken students shouting in the streets, urinating and vomiting in neighbors' yards, and students leaving an outrageous amount of litter in the streets and on neighbors' properties.

In response to these incidents, President Helm and Dean Green drafted a letter which they invited faculty, staff, student leaders, and others to co-sign. Since the release of this letter, student behavior has improved, and neighbors have noted the progress that has been made since the beginning of the Fall '08 semester to Jan Schumacher, Director of Residential Services.

Yet the letter did not completely deter students from behaving poorly and so in response to the minority of students still behaving immaturely, President Helm and his staff collaborated along with Tom Dougherty, Director of Campus Safety and Security, Dean Green, Jan Schumacher and Jane Schubert, Assistant Dean of Students, to form the College's new Disruptive Conduct Policy.

This policy will hold students accountable for their behavior by issuing fines to residents of any MILE or off campus house that disturbs other citizens of the community from the peaceful enjoyment of their premises. In addition to sending these students to the judicial process, the fines will be distributed by Campus Safety to each resident of the MILE or off campus house, starting with a \$125 fine for their first offense.

Students who engage in third or subsequent offenses will be fined \$500, and each offense will be maintained until a student graduates. Students may appeal the fines within seven business days of the incident by submitting a letter to Dean Green explaining why they feel they

should not be fined for disruptive conduct and why Campus Safety should void the report.

This policy will go into effect when students return from spring break in March of the spring semester. Campus Safety has already been distributing letters of warning to properties that would have been fined if the policy had already gone into affect. These letters explain the disruptive incident, the date and time in which it occurred, and inform the students that Campus Safety will begin issuing fines for subsequent offenses as of Mar. 8. Also, as stated in the Policy, "A record of a group of students and/or property's disruptive conduct history through Muhlenberg College's process will be maintained until a student graduates."

In addition to these letters of warning, Schubert will be posting this policy online in the student resource guide along with the rest of the College's policies, and Dean Green will be sending out a letter to the student body alerting them of the change as well. "We felt that we needed to come up with a policy but we wanted to offer enough opportunities to alert the campus community so that students didn't feel like they were being blind-sighted," says Dean Green.

Tom Dougherty hopes that through alerting the student body of the Disruptive Conduct Policy with these many reminders, students will begin to make good choices in order to avoid being held financially accountable for their actions. "It is my hope that this will simply be a policy on paper and that students will be able to figure out what actions and what type of behavior is respectful to the community that they are living in," says Dougherty.

Dougherty does explain, however, that Campus Safety officers will respond to any sort of activity that is disruptive to the neighborhood, be it an excessive amount of students leaving a specific property or a property that is being loud at an unreasonable time of day. Officers will then issue letters that notify occupants of the property of the report and subsequent fine.

Dean Green further explains, "we are not saying that you can't have a party at your home and that you can't have a good time. We are saying to be cognizant of the numbers that may be showing up at your house and the trash that these guests are leaving behind."

Green, Helm, Schubert, and Schumacher all emphasize that they understand that the incidents

that have been occurring are not representative of the College community as a whole. "I really do think this policy will help our neighbors to understand that the great majority of Muhlenberg people want to be good neighbors and care about their welfare, and that we won't tolerate boorish behavior by an immature minority," says President Helm.

Schumacher explains that already neighbors have noticed students picking up trash on the weekends that were left over from parties. "I thought this was a positive step to show that this was not the typical behavior for a Muhlenberg student," says Schumacher.

Schumacher believes that after this policy goes into effect most likely a number of students will be fined and held accountable for their actions but she hopes that in the long-run it will act more as a reminder and deterrent.

Schubert also wants to remind students that by the College instituting this new policy, students will be protected from receiving even bigger consequences than what they will receive from the College. "What students don't know is that when they host these big parties Allentown Police can

*"The administration hopes that the new...Policy will continue to help the College raise its reputation as a caring community with strong values...where all members of the community are held responsible to maintain those values."*

actually fine them up to \$1000 for their first offense," says Schubert. Three Disruptive Conduct Reports from Allentown police results in eviction, which is not a part of the College's policy. Although the College expects somewhat of a

negative reaction from some students about this policy, President Helm hopes that, overall, it will receive strong support from the "thoughtful, mature, and considerate majority of students." The policy has already received strong support from the Muhlenberg Area Community Watch who says that as neighbors of the College they are "encouraged by the initiative taken by College officials to educate students about the expectations they take on when they live in [a] larger community."

The administration hopes that the new Disruptive Conduct Policy will continue to help the College raise its reputation as a caring community with strong values, one being respect for its neighbors, where all members of the community are held responsible to maintain those values.

*"...we wanted to...alert the campus community so that students didn't feel like they were being blind-sighted."*

*"It is my hope that this will simply be a policy on paper and that students will be able to figure out what... behavior is respectful to the community."*



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
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## Phelps' image... up in smoke?

As college students, we should be able to relate to the 23-year old Michael Phelps. Most people our age are guilty of these so-called "youthful indiscretions," but then again, they are not in a constant, blinding spotlight. Maybe next time Phelps should take his hits behind closed doors.

Should we be shocked at the picture of Phelps with marijuana? Probably not, but that should not be an excuse. Phelps is a role model and should know that until he hangs up his speedo for good, he will be under the microscope. Trashier celebrities can do whatever they want because we don't expect anything from them. But Michael, we expected more from you. You are an Olympic gold medalist representing the entire country, not just its party-loving college kids. Families watched as you made history, and while you don't have to be that figure forever, you must remember that you are the "go to" guy for wholesome, Wheaties-eating entertainment, for the moment.

What do parents of children who idolize Phelps say after the recent photo surfaced of him smoking marijuana? Should they use the popular "youthful indiscretion" excuse, or should they divert their children's worship onto another, law-abiding athlete? Let's be honest, Phelps is not that young. By now, he should know the consequences of his actions. Or in this case, the lack thereof.

After a predicted apology from Phelps, his sponsors decided they weren't ready to give up on him just yet. He is, after all, a money-making machine. But what about taking responsibility? No matter how heartfelt the "I'm sorry" sounds, it shouldn't be enough this time. Phelps seems to have learned his lesson the hard way, but if his age is to blame, he may not be mature enough to change his partying ways.

As a person, Phelps can be forgiven because, although he may not seem like it at times, he is only human. As an athlete, he should take better care of his body. Lastly, and most importantly, as a role model he should know that in a world dominated by camera phones and lightning-fast internet, his reputation can sink straight to the bottom of the pool faster than you can say "bong."

## Politics in the new administration

By Stephen Holden  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

In Washington, business continues as usual after Obama's inauguration and introduction as best president ever in the history of the world OMFG. With new policy comes new dialogue, and the party roles that took shape during the Bush administration have switched. Now the Democrats have taken position as holders of the House, Senate, and the Presidency, dominating the legislative and executive functions of the government. Last week, the House of this new regime passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 in an attempt to stop the economy from hemorrhaging in the hopes that maybe the economy might look alright after a few staples. This bill had an incredible effect in the House; it split party lines in twain, with absolutely no Republicans voting for the document, which is Democrat-written and supported.

This fact is interesting for two reasons. First, the Democrats have proven that they can pass whatever they want through the House of Representatives without any Republican support. In addition, eleven Democrats voted nay, making the victory even more impressive. The second is that this bill signals that there is either a burgeoning power struggle or a failure in American political rhetoric. Both may be occurring simultaneously, possibly for the same reason: political dualism and fatalism has led to an exaggeration of the differences between the two political parties. In modern discourse, the Republicans are referred to as "conservatives" and the Democrats are referred to as "liberals." What does this mean?

In political theory, the term conservative refers to a form of governance that involves prudence and a reluctance to make changes in the political system. The Republicans have done anything but, with Presidents Reagan through W., Clinton included, supporting bills that deregulate the marketplace and government institutions, reallocating funding from the government's regulatory functions and investing in military ventures.

Deregulation is a central feature in liberalism, which seeks to liberate the people from the government and business from constraining government control (note the emphasis). Hence, Republicans and Blue Dog Democrats are not conservative, but liberal, making huge changes in the government's regulatory functions in order to ensure a free marketplace. It's no wonder that the Republicans refused to vote for the recovery act, as it is chock-filled with regulations and use of government funds for the stim-

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## A united Congress?

By Matthew Cobaugh  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Throughout his campaign, Obama said that he would unify a divided nation by utilizing input from both Republicans and Democrats. However, throughout the campaign, Obama would follow his preaching of unity with lectures about failed Republican policies, iterating some extremely partisan rhetoric. One prime example of this occurred during Obama's acceptance speech when he won his party's nomination. Democratic strategist and political analyzer Bob Beckel commented that Obama's speech was divided into two parts: the first half was preaching bipartisanship and condoning "politics as usual", and the second half was purely political and partisan.

I am afraid that Obama's words and his actions speak two radically different things. On one hand Obama tells the public that he wishes to hear Republican input and asks for their support, but his actions say otherwise. This is very troubling to me for two reasons. One, I am afraid that Obama's words will remain solely words and not turn into actions. This means he will move the country very far to the left, while creating the illusion of governing from the center. The second troubling aspect is that his preaching of unity and bipartisanship will blind the general

public to his actual motives.

Recently, President Obama has been signing laws and executive orders on the weekends, to shadow what his true agenda is, and cast the majority of the public away from his policies. During the week, Obama has been holding press conferences and highly publicized meetings with Republicans to give the image that he is working with both sides. However, this is not the case. Recently Obama held a large ball with notable Republicans. This meeting was simply a publicity stunt. Does anyone actually believe Obama met with Republicans to have his mind changed on policies? No, because his policies have not changed.

If you disagree, then consider this: President Obama wished to have Republican support for his massive new stimulus plan, otherwise called the NEW New Deal. The Democrats in Congress have a large majority over the Republicans; they do not need Republican support. The only reason Democrats would want Republican support for such a huge-spending bill is for a scapegoat. There is nothing bipartisan about forcing Republicans to sign onto a Democratic bill. The Democratic definition of bipartisan, then, is making Republicans agree with them, not using input from both sides to create a bipartisan bill. This does not help the

country.

Obama is trying to avoid one of the Clinton administration's greatest mistakes, which led to a Republican takeover in Congress. The Clinton administration had a very similar Democratic Congress; however, they used their majority power to shut Republicans out in all policies. When it came time for re-election the reckless Democratic Congress was voted out due to their failed policies. Obama's attempts at avoiding this problem are failing. He is merely using the Republicans as a scapegoat, so when the bill fails, he can blame Republicans too. Clearly, the Republicans saw this and did not vote for the bill.

With so much at hand, and the future of the United States resting on President Obama's shoulders, it is deeply troubling to me as an American to see him saying one thing, then doing another. I do not see the United States benefiting from Obama's hypocritical method of policy making. I wish for Obama to succeed because a success for Obama means a success for the country, but the only way to do this is to actually act on his bipartisan rhetoric. He needs to truly listen to both sides—not pretend to. So far, I do not see how he can succeed if he governs in this hypocritical fashion. I suppose, however, that if I want Obama and the country to succeed, I can always use hope.



# One man's inauguration nightmare



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

It was the Sunday night before the Inauguration, and my roommate, James Corbett, had decided to drive down to watch Barack Obama being sworn in. After a less than convincing argument about why I should go with him, Corbett left alone in his 1996 Toyota Corolla to take on Washington D.C., at 1 A.M.

People say weather can foreshadow future events; this car ride down was no exception. Corbett encountered a thick fog which required him to drive in the middle of the highway following only the two lane dividing lines at 30 MPH. It was

also raining and his windshield wipers weren't working. His plan was to say with "friends" in Roslyn, Virginia. Even though he would be arriving at 5 A.M., they assured him they would be awake. As he approached Virginia, he called his friend; unfortunately his friend's ex-boyfriend answered and wasn't happy to be hearing from him. After a short conversation, Corbett missed the building and when he called for help, there was no response.

After eight unanswered phone calls and a failed attempt to stay at a hotel Corbett decided to sleep in his car. After locking his doors and putting his seat back, the phone rang, it was his friend. He walked to the front door, and after waiting 20 minutes, she finally arrived with her ex-boyfriend, which led to 20 minutes of watching them argue in the lobby. Finally, the three of them entered the elevator, only to encounter 40 seconds of awkwardness.

Corbett prepared for a comfortable sleep. Unfortunately all the couches were filled. So, the floor would have to do, with no blanket and no pillow. After three hours, Corbett awoke to a cold wind, as the people on the couches left the screen door open when they went to smoke.

James had never been to D.C. before but figured there was no harm in walking alone. After a metro ride to see the monuments, he proceeded to walk five miles to the National Cathedral. Despite being dressed warmly, he could have never prepared for the intense cold that had cut across D.C. After four hours of walking and nursing two sore ankles, a cramping calf, and emerging frostbite, Corbett decided to meet a friend from George Washington University and walk around the city.

After four more grueling hours of touring, Corbett returned to Roslyn. He decided to stay up all night in the city and then go early in the morning to the inauguration to get a good view.

Here is a recap of Corbett's night: a decision to go alone to meet a friend, which ended up with him wandering the streets in the cold and lost, eventually meeting his friend, only to be left dejected and deciding to set out alone again. After this, he ended up in a bar, where he conversed with two kindergarten school teachers, which turned out to be the highlight of his night. Upon the closing of the bar, he decided it would be best to go home. Unfortunately, the metro had closed, but little did Corbett know, they would be re-opening in 20 minutes from the time he checked.

Without this knowledge, he began walking to the inauguration...which was three miles away.

He arrived at the Inauguration only to find blockades and crowds of people. Corbett then bought a newspaper and took his place among the crowd. The cold began to take its toll and he decided to curl up in the corner, amongst the crowds, using the newspaper as a pillow...and take a nap. When he woke up 12 minutes later, he decided to go back to Roslyn. He arrived at 6 A.M., and nobody answered his calls leading him to sleep in the lobby until 9 A.M.

Corbett then made his trip to witness history. Initially, Corbett had a prime location to watch, but he decided to move into a less crowded area, because of his mental and physical fatigue. Before settling down a mile from where President Obama would speak, he decided to take refuge in one of the port-a-potties that lined the National Mall. He looked and took note of the symbolic beauty of our nation's colors. In the blue water, lay piles of white toilet paper, smeared with an unexplainable amount of red blood.

On his metro ride home, a woman looked at him, and said "Not a bad day, huh?" and he replied "Not a bad day at all."

## Decisions that define us

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

On my way to class last Thursday, I was pleasantly surprised to see my name in one of articles in *The Weekly*. It was immediately clear

that the article in which my name was mentioned was in response to two of my previous pieces. It is certainly not my intention to create an ongoing banter between myself and Alex Lotorto, but I do have a right to offer a rebuttal and defend my positions.

Alex Lotorto accused the United States of being nothing more than "pretty flags, borders...pledges, anthems, and portraits." America is not an illusion, or some concoction used by the elite to gobble up power. America is a country of substance, of deep-rooted values and convictions. We live in a country that takes strong stances, reaches out to others, and supports the rights and freedoms of all mankind.

A claim was made that flags merely "stand for governments, not people." Let's take a moment, close our eyes, and picture our American flag. Each element of our Star Spangled Banner does represent people. Every star represents a state that we, as a people, belong to, and each of the thirteen stripes commemorate the original American colonies and the patriots who founded the United States of America. The flag is worn on the uniforms of our soldiers and drapes the coffins of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. People proudly wear American flag t-shirts and hats, flags can be seen in front of homes and in cars, and the American flag can be found flying high on our campus. There is true meaning to our flag. Those who hate Americans find that the only way to show it is by burning our flag, because it is a symbol of the American people. All of these images have one thing in common: people.

Today's controversial issues are guaranteed to raise distaste among the people. There are plenty of avenues to make your disapprovals heard. People can demonstrate debate, protest, participate in elections, sign petitions, write letters, and even run for office. Burning the American flag is symbolic of hatred of the United States and its citizens. The institution of government deserves our undivided support. This does not mean criticism is not permitted - of course it is. No matter what party or ideology you belong to, our common goal should be the success and prosperity of America.

My article "The Case for Israel's Defense"

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### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY Serving The Muhlenberg Community Since 1883

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# "Up Up with the Workers! Down Down with The Boss!"

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

As we tuned into the Super Bowl halftime spectacular sponsored by Bridgestone Firestone and their two ads that cost \$3 million, Firestone Liberian rubber plantation workers were starting a 14-hour day of back-breaking latex harvesting for three dollars' pay. True to form, Bruce Springsteen, like Tom Petty before him, was well aware of the modern day slavery practiced by Firestone and made no comment on the situation before, during, or after his well-paid performance. Ironically, his nickname is "The Boss."

Each day, Bridgestone Firestone workers walk to work and harvest 150 pounds of sap from 750 rubber trees in two buckets which they carry across their backs to earn a pathetic three dollars. They do not get paid unless they make the quota, so they often bring their wives and children to work, forced to violate child labor laws to survive.

Since Bridgestone Firestone landed the highest bid sponsorship of the halftime show two years ago, the Stop Firestone Coalition has been working alongside the United Steelworkers (USW) on a letter writing and phone banking campaign to

persuade the NFL and halftime performers, Tom Petty and Bruce Springsteen, to offset their actions with solidarity for the Liberian workers. Some suggestions have been to make pro-labor statements, find an alternative sponsor, donate to USW or Stop Firestone, or take a visible direct action surrounding the performance. None of this was considered feasible for the profiteers.

USW, which represents Bridgestone Firestone workers in the United States, has fought to win and keep a collective bargaining agreement for better working conditions on the rubber plantation. USW has supported the Liberian workers for the past two years through training programs, workshops, and education in partnership with the Solidarity Center, according to James Parks of the AFL-CIO.

Parks said, "After a long struggle, workers finally held the first free and fair union election and signed their first contract negotiated by an independent union leadership in August 2008. The agreement was a major step forward in the long struggle of workers to protect their rights."

However, many improvements have been disregarded by Firestone, like the reducing the size of the production quota, fully implemented health

and safety improvements in the new contract, and transportation for workers to work and children to school. "Firestone has neglected these provisions almost entirely," Parks said.

Emira Woods, co-director of Foreign Policy In Focus at the Institute for Policy Studies where I interned last spring, said, "Bridgestone Firestone spends millions to sponsor the Super Bowl, yet a small fraction of that amount could alleviate the heavy burden of exploitation of workers and the environment in Liberia. After three years of pressure from the workers, the adjacent community, and government officials, it is past time for Firestone to do the right thing. The NFL has a responsibility to sports fans across the country to not fill its marquee event with endorsers like Firestone that also sponsor labor and environmental abuse around the world."

So as the NFL advertises their support for the Boys and Girls Club of America and Tom Petty and Bruce Springsteen claim to champion for progressive causes, remember the time that they had the power of persuasion to make a real difference for oppressed people. They were born to run over the backs of slaves for the money and fame.

## Write for Op/Ed!

### Share your Opinions!

#### Contact:

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#### POLITICS

FROM PAGE 2

ulus of the marketplace, much more than most liberals would prefer. The Republicans can not be called true liberals, however, as throughout all of their ruling periods they pumped billions of extra dollars into the military, often buying and using outdated weapons instead of training ground forces or researching strategies that would fit post-Cold War conflict (but that's another ideology altogether).

So where does this leave the Democrats? They are conservative, of course! Instead of changing systems that already work in a dramatic fashion or using untested methods of governance, the Democrats have managed to push for legislation that is based on tried-and-true governance either within the US, EU, or Asia. Frankly, these days the most "progressive" Democrats look more conservative than many of the moderate Republicans. Unfortunately, the American people were too busy watching the news to realize that the influence of "change" is really a conservative movement, changing from new ideas that didn't pan out as well as some would have hoped to policies that many intellectuals and historians can show have been tried before with varying degrees of success.

None of this would have been possible without the use of modern media. Thanks to twenty-four hour news networks, politics have been simplified in both discourse and practice to two obviously different choices: with us or against us. Blue and red are the new colors of nationalism within the US. Left and right, however, are not the only two dimensions on the political spectrum. Several different spectrums may be used to help define exactly where one might fall. One of the best models is four-pointed.

To the left, pure socialism in which all goods and services are shared by the population; to the right, no public goods exist; there is a whole gap in the middle where 99 percent of the population falls. To the top is fascism, an obsession with military rule in which the people belong to the government; the bottom is pure anarchy with no rules whatsoever; in between these two points are 99% of the population. Place wherever, this is a subjective chart; however, the whole "left-right" problem and the questions of who is with us or against us must go in order to make a government work and help inform our population. Ours is a public sphere broken by oversimplification, underdeveloped because of lack of will to assert political difference in any terms but left or right, blue or red, liberal or conservative. To make matters worse, we aren't even using the terms right.

#### DECISIONS

FROM PAGE 3

also received some heat from Alex Lotorto. The time had come for the free and sovereign state of Israel to protect itself and its people. Taking preventative and forceful measures to respond to rocket and mortar attacks was appropriate. Israel's response to the cowardly, unprovoked terrorist campaign of Hamas will set a historic example for future leaders to follow. Let's recall that Israel withdrew from the Gaza strip three years ago; a lot of good that did. Since the removal of Israeli forces three years ago, Hamas has hurled 6,000 rockets and mortars into civilian centers. This must have been a gesture of goodwill and peace from Hamas.

Alex Lotorto believes that "Israel makes nonviolence impossible," but it appears that it is Hamas making peace unattainable. Alex also goes on to assert that the terrorism carried out by Hamas were acts of "desperation." Of course, let's play the victim game even though Hamas was the instigator of this mess. We cannot justify the actions of a group that cowers behind its own civilian populations when Israeli forces fight back. Israel is the true freedom fighter and Hamas is the bully that is depriving freedom from others (most importantly, the right to live). The question is how much must a country endure until it puts its foot down? Are we going to tolerate this abuse? Israel spoke: the answer is not any longer.

The United States of America is a country the world looks up to, it is a place that people dream about, and it is a place that millions call home. America is something we should value and something worth preserving. Supporting violence and hatred against one's own home is a recipe for disaster. Today, Israel is fighting its Battle of the Alamo. It is a necessary part in the advance of freedom in the Middle East and deserves our backing. In the end, it is about being an American and loving the principles the U.S.A. has always embraced, and being there for a fellow freedom fighter.

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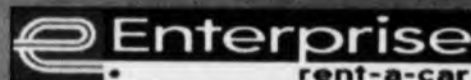
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| Muhlenberg College              | Northampton Community College |
| Penn State Berks                | Penn State Lehigh Valley      |
| Reading Area Community College  |                               |





# New faculty spotlight!

## Dr. Sprayberry - Biology

By Jennifer Arner  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Dr. Jordanna Sprayberry is a new addition to the faculty of the College. She received her B.S. in Zoology from the University of Rhode Island in 1988 and completed her Ph.D. at the University of Washington in 2005.

Her research focused on the feeding behavior in moths. Her project included looking at the neural substrates of that behavior, and on a cellular level, she also examined the neural substrates of the behavior. Also, on an organismal level, she examined the feeding rates and tracking ability of individual moths.

Dr. Sprayberry is currently teaching Principles of Biology II and co-teaching Plant-Insect Interactions with Dr. Goodrich, and she is looking forward to teaching General Physiology next semester. Also, next fall she will be developing two new courses: an FYS and a lab course for Biology.

When asked what she finds most intriguing about her studies, she simply replied, "all of it," adding that "the central interest behind my research is animal behavior. I am fascinated by why and how animals do what they do, and what

the potential evolutionary and ecological implications of that behavior are."

This is clearly evident, for in addition to the new courses she plans to develop next semester, she is also building a new research program. While currently working with a student studying learning in bumblebees, Sprayberry explained that next year she will have three new students joining the lab. During that time, they will be starting a whole new line of research on the effects of pollution on olfactory navigation, something that has interested her for a long time.

Prior to working at the College, Dr. Sprayberry taught for one semester as part of a post-doctoral fellowship program. What impressed her most about the College was the sense of community and collaboration she received during her interview. "Everyone I met genuinely liked their job. It made me want to work here too," she explained.

Although she may be new to the College, she is not exactly new to the Allentown area. Dr. Sprayberry explained that she spent a lot of time in the area as a child visiting extended family. Interestingly enough, she was also a flower girl in her aunt's wedding held in Egner

Memorial Chapel when she was five-years-old. "It has been a little surreal being back here," she admitted, "but we are really enjoying it." She then went on to add that she and her family are fortunate enough to live near campus and enjoy how convenient it is to walk everywhere.

When asked what she would consider her favorite thing about the College, she jokingly replied, "The mascot. What's not to love about a burro?" In reality, what attracted her and continues to attract her to the College is simply the community. She seems to have found exactly what had impressed her during her interview. "The faculty, staff and students have all been very welcoming," she explained.

When she is not busy at the College, her spare time is mostly spent playing with her son who is nearly two-years-old. Although this may limit her free time, she also enjoys knitting and finding time to work on her house when given the opportunity.

The students and staff of Muhlenberg College wish to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Sprayberry and look forward to the many exciting programs and projects she has to offer the department and the College as a whole.

# New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

## Write for News!

Email

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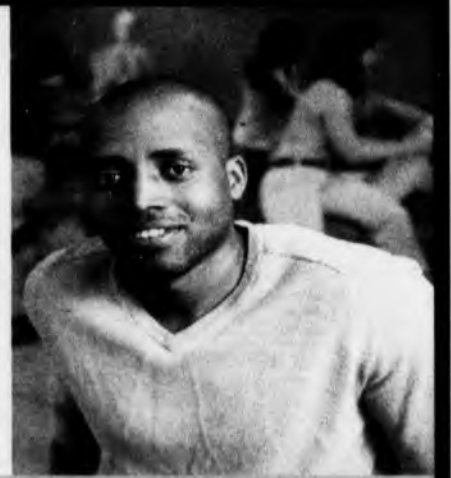
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## Campus Safety Notes

Jan. 26 - Found Property - A debit card was found in Seegers Union (Upper Level). A message was left on the owner's cell phone to stop at Campus Safety and pick up the card. The card was later picked up.

Jan. 26 - Lost Property - A student reported losing an ipod on campus.

Jan. 27 - Prohibited Offensive Weapons - Brass knuckles were found in the Life Sports Center. The brass knuckles were turned in to Campus Safety. There are no suspects at this time.

Jan. 27 - Sick Student - A reporting party called to report a student having an allergic reaction in Martin Luther Hall, third floor. MCEMS and Health Center were notified. Student refused medical treatment.

Jan. 27 - Injured Student - A student reported injuring their ankle in the Life Sports Center Fieldhouse. MCEMS and Health Center were notified. Student refused transportation.

Jan. 28 - Found Property - A coffee mug was left on the change machine in the main first floor lobby of Prosser Hall. The mug was held at Campus Safety where the owner picked it up.

Jan. 29 - Injured Employee - An employee reported falling on Liberty Street but did not need

EMS. Officer picked the employee up from the Martin Luther parking lot and transported the person to the Health Center.

Jan. 29 - Sick Employee - The Health Center called for an ambulance for an employee. The person was transported to the hospital. Campus Safety officers guided Allentown EMS ambulance to Health Center. There is no further information.

Jan. 29 - Injured Student - There was a report of a student falling on ice and hitting their head at an entrance door to Moyer Hall. Student refused medical treatment.

Jan. 29 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm sounded in Prosser Hall. Could not find what set off alarm.

Jan. 29 - Fire/Safety Violation - While investigating a fire alarm in Prosser Hall, an officer noticed a smoke detector on the third floor covered by a bag. A fine will be mailed to the occupant(s) of the room and referred to Judicial.

Jan. 29 - Fire/Safety Violation - In Prosser Hall, second floor, a smoke detector was tampered with having the detector disconnected in a room. The occupants will be fined.

Jan. 30 - Lost Property - A report of a lost card either

in Seegers Union or the front drive area.

Jan. 30 - Sick Student - A student in Prosser Hall Annex second floor had low blood sugar. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Jan. 30 - Suspicious Person - Campus Safety received an email about a suspicious person milling around offices in the Art Department at the Center of the Arts. There are no suspects at this time.

Jan. 30 - Noise Complaint: College Violation - A student reported loud noises coming from a room at 2201 Chew Street. The occupants were advised to turn down music; they complied and were referred to housing office. No further incident has occurred.

Jan. 31 - Theft from Building - Recovered stolen sign on Chew Street taken off building at Stooges. Two male non-students were arrested by Allentown Police Department for possession of stolen property.

Jan. 31 - Disturbance - A garage window was broken on Liberty Street. Letters of no contact were issued to students involved. The investigation is to be continued.

Jan. 31 - Sick Student - At 2255 Turner Street,

Building 3, third floor, a sick, 21 year-old student was intoxicated. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were notified. Student declined medical transport. The person was referred to Judicial.

Jan. 31 - Theft from Building - On the front drive, a sign was stolen reading "Reserved for Guest of the President" valued at \$25.00. There are no suspects at this time.

Jan. 31 - Sick Student - A reporting party called about a sick student in Walz Hall, first floor. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were notified. The student was transported to hospital.

Jan. 31 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm sounded in Robertson Hall, third floor due to burnt food. The system was silenced and reset.

Feb. 1 - Sick Student - A sick student in Prosser Hall Annex, third floor was vomiting. MCEMS and Health Center were notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 1 - Found Property - An employee turned in an AT&T cell phone that was found in the Life Sports Center. The phone was returned to the owner by the dispatcher.

Feb. 1 - Larceny/Theft - A student came to Campus

Safety to report having items from her wallet stolen. No suspects at this time. This is the first of two reports in two days that Campus Safety has taken in reference to thefts occurring during a party at an unidentified off-campus house on 22 Street. If anyone has information about the thefts, the suspects, or can provide further information, please contact the Department of Campus Safety.

Feb. 1 - Drug Possession: Marijuana - A reporting party called to report the smell of marijuana outside Walz Hall in the freshman quad. Officer brought in a non-student with possible small amount of marijuana and paraphernalia. Allentown Police was called. The non-student was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

Feb. 1 - Lost Property - A jacket was stolen from a party at an off-campus location. The person was advised to cancel all credit cards, etc. The jacket was found and returned to the owner with all contents. This is the second of two reports in the past two days that Campus Safety has taken in reference to thefts occurring during a party at an unidentified off-campus house on 22 Street. If anyone has information about the thefts, the suspects, or can provide further information, please contact the Department of Campus Safety.

WEEKLY

# Life!

"The most important things in life aren't things."

- Anthony J. D'Angelo

## The Worst Films of 2008

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

While 2008 was not one of the best years for Hollywood, it did provide us with a number of quality films. Unfortunately, 2008 also provided us with some films that demeaned our intelligence, robbed us of our time and money, and caused Edward D. Wood Jr. to turn over in his grave...well, almost. Here is the short list:

5. **10,000 B.C.:** I probably would have enjoyed it more if one of the CGI woolly mammoths had stepped on me before I entered the theater.

4. **What Happens In Vegas:** The one redeeming feature of this movie was that it ended.

3. **Rambo:** I am able to rhyme the only two qualities this film possessed: gore and bore. Scrap that, I'm giving the film too much credit by saying it had *any* qualities.

2. **Meddellin:** Director Billy Walsh and actor Vincent Chase team up once again, but this time, to ruin both their careers. Chase, the star of such hits as *Queens Boulevard* and *Aquaman*, has now been relegated to singing at teenage birthday parties as a result of this disaster...

...Speaking of disaster, did you see Al Pacino's hair in *88 Minutes*?

1. **88 Minutes/Righteous Kill:** Here's a two-for-one special because they were directed by the same person. Put simply, I'd rather lock myself in a room, step on a bear trap and listen to Barbara Streisand for 24 hours than watch either of these debacles again. (No offense intended to my mother and grandmother, for who Barbara Streisand evokes boundless joy and emotion).

**Achievements in filmmaking incompetence in 2008:**

**What Were You Thinking? Tom Cruise** - What were you thinking when you signed on to *Valkyrie*? Right after *Tropic Thunder*, in which you rescued your career which was stuck in neutral, you chose to star in *Valkyrie*, a role that put your career in reverse. While you weren't solely responsible for it being a terrible movie, you deserve a great deal of the blame for attempting to play a German officer who tried to assassinate Hitler. You should know that you don't have the ability to be in a role which requires a commanding screen presence from its actor.

**Worst Idea: The producers of "At the Movies"** - What prompted the producers of the very popular movie review show *At the Movies* to fire Richard Roeper and Roger Ebert/Michael Philips? Even worse, where did they get the idea to hire Ben Lyons? Lyons is the film critic who called *I Am Legend* "One of the greatest movies ever made." (I'll give you a moment to let that last quote settle in). While I can stand his new co-host Ben Mankiewicz - ironically the son of the writer of one of the greatest movies ever made, *Citizen Kane* - it is Lyons that makes the new version of *At the Movies* unwatchable. I hope that Roeper and Philips are able to find another TV outlet to appear on so I can enjoy a review show again.

**Who Gave This Man a Camera? Jon Avnet** - The director of the two worst films of the year, *88 Minutes* and *Righteous Kill*, should never, ever direct again. Mr. Avnet has made his mark on Hollywood; unfortunately it's for tainting the careers of Al Pacino and Robert De Niro. I didn't think it was possible to single-handedly drop 800-pound gorillas on the careers of two great American actors. Honestly, who gave this man a camera?

**Biggest Disappointment: Quantum**

**of Solace** - Coming off the smash success of *Casino Royale*, I should have realized that there was no way for the next Bond film to top it. Undoubtedly, most people, myself included, over-hyped Daniel Craig's second go-around as the MI-6 agent. As you can tell from this article, I am a nice and forgiving person and, as such, I am willing to forget that this was a James Bond film and consider it the fourth installment of the Jason Bourne series. With its lack of a story, shaky cinematography and non-stop action most people could confuse it with a Bourne film.

**Just Stop Trying: Kate Hudson** - Just stop trying to be funny, Kate! What do these films have in common: *Fool's Gold*, *You, Me and Dupree*, *My Best Friends Girl*, and *Bride Wars*? Answer: they are your last four films and each was worse than the previous one. You had one role, almost a decade ago, in which you were good, not great. The character of Penny Lane in *Almost Famous* was written for you to be cute, not funny, and you didn't come close to carrying the film either. Try to name a decent film you've done, before or after that film. Now, with *Bride Wars*, you once again prove that, while you still are cute, you aren't an actress worth paying a penny (Lane) to watch.

## Girl's Next Door's annual Valentine's Day Concert

The Girls Next Door are the only all-female a cappella singing group on campus. The fourteen lovely ladies range from freshmen to seniors, and math majors to theater majors. Their annual Valentine's Day Cabaret will be held on February 13 at 11:00 p.m. in the Red Door and will feature solo numbers and some new group premieres! Also, check out their new CD, *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*, on sale that night or by emailing [gndstuff@yahoo.com](mailto:gndstuff@yahoo.com).

PHOTO COURTESY OF GIRLS NEXT DOOR





# This bed isn't big enough for the both of us

By Sally Bucey  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Sleepovers were really popular in elementary and middle school. One would go to his or her best friend's house in pajamas, lay on an old extra mattress and watch movies, followed by discussions about boys or girls in school and which ones were cute.

Now that we're all in college, sleepovers have evolved in a number of different ways.

Occasionally, girls or guys will sleep over in each other's rooms to watch a movie and talk like old times. But with the close proximity of dorm rooms, it's not very common. Most of the time, people will stay up talking but eventually go back to their own rooms.

One of the main reasons sleepovers don't happen very much between friends is because of where they would potentially be sleeping: the ground. It's not very comfortable to lie on a scratchy carpet for six to eight hours, especially when one has their own vacant, comfortable, and familiar bed only a few

steps away.

More often than not, when a girl or guy sleeps in a friend's room, it is for different reasons than just socializing and chatting. They may have been too drunk and passed out in someone else's room, or they could have just been unable to make it back to their own dorm if it's in a different building. It's also possible that they were just sexiled by their roommate and have no choice but to sleep elsewhere. It's not always fun and games when you're sleeping in someone else's room.

Most commonly, though, sleepovers are actually boys or girls spending the night with a romantic interest, a boyfriend or a girlfriend. They could be watching a movie, watching television, cuddling, hooking up, or even just talking.

When spending the night in a significant other's room, there is a major thing to consider:

the roommate. One has to be sensitive to the fact that someone else is sleeping in that room. Waking him or her up in the middle of the night with your laughter isn't the best way to get on his or her good side. Neither is making a bunch of noise at 7:00 a.m. when you get up for an early breakfast with your sweetie.

If you two are in your room, make sure you've discussed things with your roommate. Getting in a fight with them in front of your romantic interest isn't very attractive or impressive. Respect your roommate unless you want to be messed with later.

With any sleepover, there are things that can go very wrong. If one person in the room snores, it could ruin the night for everyone. Nothing is worse than waking up at 4:00 a.m. to hear what sounds like a dying dog echoing through the room. If you snore, warn everyone in advance or sleep in your room. Also possible is that you're sharing a bed with someone. If this is

true, then you may have problems with bed space. Most people shift positions in their sleep, and often this leads to them taking up the middle section of the bed.

You might find yourself hugging the wall, about to fall off the bed, or even just plain on the ground. Twin beds were made for one person and it can be a real challenge to share one and get a good sleep at the same time.

Despite all the difficulties, it can be a pleasant experience to wake up to a friend, girlfriend, or boyfriend. A good morning can make for a great day. Also, closeness can easily grow between people who have seen each other in the morning before they've gotten ready for the day.

It can be a really fun time when people sleep over in each other's rooms, but there are a lot of factors that go into it. Middle school sleepovers are a lot different than ones that happen on college campuses.

But now that we're older, it can also be a better experience if all goes well.



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK: WHAT IS THE BEST SNACK FOOD?



"Pistachios."  
- Lauren Blatt, '12



"Kettle-roasted ranch peanuts."  
- Kadeem Alston-Roman, '12



"Bagel bombs."  
- Julie Klein, '12



"Sunchips."  
- Matt Katz, '10



"Animal crackers."  
- Sally Bucey, '12

COMPILED BY SALLY BUCEY

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Coraline

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

### Taken

Fri. 5:20, 7:50, 10:10  
Sat. 5:20, 7:50, 10:10  
Sun. 5:20, 7:50, 10:10

### He's Just Not That Into You

Fri. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sat. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sun. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00

### The Pink Panther 2

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

### Push

Fri. 4:50, 7:40, 10:20  
Sat. 4:50, 7:40, 10:20  
Sun. 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

### Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Fri. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40  
Sat. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40  
Sun. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40

### The Uninvited

Fri. 2:30, 5:10, 7:30  
Sat. 2:30, 5:10, 7:30  
Sun. 2:30, 5:10, 7:30

# A moving evening of premiere choreography

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

It is the week of *Master Choreographers*, the campus's most prestigious dance event of the year.

Muhlenberg dance majors have been in rehearsal and development on new dance works by faculty and guest artists since the beginning of the academic year, and the stage lights are set in Empie Theatre to showcase their work.

Students and audiences get the opportunity to see some of the nation's best new choreography with *Master Choreographers*.

Last year, Professor Charles O. Anderson's piece was a National Finalist in the American College Dance Festival and was selected for exhibition in New York City. That piece featured an all-male ensemble athletically performing his African-based movement.

His piece this year is titled *...and this too shall pass* and includes an all-female cast of dancers. Anderson is collaborating on a new Dance Theatre

production called *Caw*, which the Theatre and Dance Department will present at the end of March.

Guest choreographer Meredith Rainey of Philadelphia's Ballet X premieres a contemporary ballet and guest artist Charlotte Boye-Christensen of Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company in Utah set a dance titled *Somewhere in Between*. These artists in residence provide a unique opportunity for dancers to learn and audiences to be exposed to something different.

Shelley Oliver, boon of the Muhlenberg Jazz-tap program presents a closing number complete with a live performance by a renowned jazz trio lead by David Leonhardt. Oliver is also receiving an award at Friday's concert from the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges for her contribution to the dance community.

*Master Choreographers* is presented in the Empie Theatre at 8:00 p.m. on Thurs, Feb. 5 and Fri, Feb 6. There are two performances on Sat, Feb. 7 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for students.



Meghan Meehan '09, Ashley Sleeth '11, Ari Brandsdorfer '11, Olivia Wingerath '09, Samantha G. Jonson '09 in Corrie Franz Cowart's "Que Sera Sera." (top left)

Michele Sasso '10 jumps in Kathleen Bilbalo's "Cumulative Confusion." (bottom left)

Scott Schnieder '11 and Barri DeFrancisci '12 in Guest Choreographer Meredith Rainey's "The Fall." (top right)

PHOTO BY MATTHEW WRIGHT OF FIGTREE PHOTOGRAPHY



# Snowtubing at Bear Creek

By Jordan Shafer  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

On Jan. 30, 50 students enjoyed an evening of snow tubing at the ski resort Bear Creek. A school bus full of students from the College, mostly freshmen, left the Center for the Arts at 6:00 p.m. The driver got a little lost but the bus still arrived at Bear Creek around 6:45 p.m. Everyone was very excited to start tubing.

Each student picked a tube and then held onto it by a leash while being transported up the hill by a conveyor belt called the "magic carpet." There were five lanes for tubing on the mountain so tubers could go down at the same time as their friends. People waiting in line to go down could hear Muhlenberg tubers

shouting their friends' names as they slid down.

It was a long, somewhat steep hill and the tubes turned around entirely if the tuber did not try to steer at all. The tubes travelled quickly and snow flew out behind them.

It was a very cold night and despite the fact that they were wearing four or five layers, most people had to go in for a hot chocolate break or even just that they finished tubing an hour or so early. Students enjoyed sitting by the fireplace with a cup of hot chocolate and a platter of popcorn chicken in their hands, laughing with their friends during a break to warm up.

Despite the cold everyone had a great time and appreciated a fun evening off campus.

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# NHL All-Star debacle needs fixing

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Saturday night, the NHL held their annual skills competition as their preview and prelude to their All-Star game. This year, the supportive, exciting, and enthusiastic crowd of Montreal hosted the event. But I could not hear them.

Any excitement in the arena was unable to be heard on television in one of the worst presentations of hockey I have ever witnessed. Do not get me wrong, I am not a critic of the All-Star festivities in general. In my opinion, the skills competition is one of the best nights of the year. I kept the game on, but I was not happy about it.

I have never been a huge fan of the NHL's TV contract with Versus, but for the most part, they have done an extremely impressive job presenting National Hockey League games to the public.

Last year's skills competition in Atlanta was easily the best I have ever seen and one of the top rated. There is no one I spoke with who saw anything bad with the game, other than possibly the fastest skater competition. The brand new relay race, breakaway competition, and all of the old events, such as the accuracy shootout, the fastest skater, etc. The only negative people said was the change made to the fastest skater competition.

This year, they changed the competition around completely, and for the worse. Perhaps with the recent inauguration of President Barack Obama, they felt they needed to change things up as well. However, as many know, change does not always lead to good results.

First up on the list of change: breakaway competition. What was the change? The fans voted the winner. Did the NHL not learn enough from the controversy over the All-Star starter voting? Alex Ovechkin deserved to win, without question. I voted for him, too. But he did not do the best trick. He did the trick that would entertain the fans, which it did. He is a smart man, and was able to win based on knowing his audience; a couple million voters, as opposed to some judges on the ice.

Change number two: instead of giving the players a chance to shoot in the breakaway competition, they give them a minute to strut their stuff. Why? Pressure the players, make them perform their best stuff by giving them one or two shots. After one minute, I was bored.

Change number three: take away the relay race. Why did the NHL do this? The fans loved this portion of the competition, especially seeing goalies shoot from two hundred feet away. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Versus' presentation of the skills competition was nothing more than disgraceful. The crowd was unable to be heard. I heard one instance of cheering during the skills competition, which was before Alexei Kovalev took his minute during the shootout competition.

Some might say that it was simply Montreal fans being disrespectful, but I do not believe this is true. The crowd noises make any NHL event exciting. Without fans, the game is nothing. When Zdeno Chara broke the record for fastest shot by demolishing the puck at 105.4 miles per hour, the crowd was barely audible. If you watched last year's competition, the crowd broke out in cheers after Chara blasted a shot just over 103.

The performances before the skills competition and All-Star game were questionable at best. The Phantom of the Opera-like organ Saturday night and the Cirque de Soleil presentation Sunday night reminded me why the NHL is the laughingstock of the four major sports. The NHL needs to book a rock concert, not acrobatics.

Then, as the All-Star Game was starting, the national anthems were sung. The U.S. national anthem, the Star Spangled Banner, was sung so disrespectfully, it was insulting. It seemed like the pop singer was making a joke of my country. Extending notes and adding "Woah" to random parts of the United States' national anthem does not make it better; it embarrasses the singer and the NHL.

The only positive that I witnessed was Marc Savard being mic'd up. He was entertaining for the duration of both nights, and helped the announcers have fun.

However, even the announcers did not sound enthusiastic. Mike "Doc" Emrick seemed to be lacking the normal excitement he brings to the game.

Many fans were also disappointed with Versus' decision not to show Commissioner Gary Bettman's interview during the second intermission. As unpopular as he is, he is still the Commissioner, and much like the President of the United States, people want to hear him speak.

I am not sure what the NHL hopes to accomplish by changing every aspect of the game. Why does the league feel the need to get every major event sponsored? The Honda All-Star Game? The Cisco hardest shot competition? The Gatorade elimination shootout? The Bridgestone fastest skater? True, the NHL wants to make money, but they should also hope to keep their dignity. Are we going to rename the trophy the Pepsi Stanley Cup?

This is a scary revelation that I had during the All-Star weekend that was started during the Bridgestone Winter Classic, another corporate event. It is understood that the United States is in an economic crisis, but from what I hear, the NHL's revenue streams are fine. Higher revenue streams are always important, because as former President John Ziegler has told me numerous times, the NHL is first a business and second an entertainment industry.

But nonetheless, the entertainment portion of the business must not be overshadowed by the economic side of the league. If corporate sponsorships take over the NHL, fans may start to leave, and that will ultimately take away from what the NHL wants: more fans, and more revenue. Based on revelations of this past All-Star weekend, I believe the NHL has to think long and hard before they make changes to a good thing.

*Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report and the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers' section; a writer for Prohockeynews.com and Insidehockey.com, he is also the co-host of NHL 2Day, a weekly radio show on Youcastr.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com*

## The Clapping Five

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

So far this season, every article I have written about the Women's Basketball Team could have been found in the box score. I have written about statistics and records, game results, and the several broken records the Mules have achieved so far this season. So my first thought for an article this week was about freshman Alexandra Chili breaking the school's 3-point record, or possible about how 5 foot 6 inch sophomore Kelly McKeon is leading the team, and is second in the Conference, in total rebounding. But last week when the Mules hosted Ursinus, I saw something I had never seen before at a basketball game. I saw something I knew nobody else had noticed, something that would most likely be forgotten and never be discussed.

As the second half began, the Mules had opened up a comfortable yet competitive 14 point lead over Ursinus, 35-21. For the first few minutes, the lead slimmed a little, but the game stayed relatively the same. After two consecutive Mule turnovers, the Bears managed to grab what

seemed like 5 offensive rebounds on the same play. The Bears were out hustling the Mules, outworking the Mules, and finally made a lay-up after about 4 chances from inside the paint. Well Coach Ron Rohn had seen enough. He immediately subbed in 5 new players, taking out the entire starting lineup; he essentially benched his starters. I sat there wondering how this group would react to being sent to the bench. Keep in mind, the lead was still double digits. These girls were undefeated in the Conference, nationally ranked, and on their way to what seemed like a relatively easy win. It seemed like a bold move, maybe even a risky move, but what transpired next demonstrates a lot about why Coach Rohn's program has become the dominant Centennial team.

As the five players ran to the bench, and believe me they quickly ran off the court, I was waiting to see their emotions and reactions as they took their seats. But that's when the oddity occurred; they never took a seat. The five players remained standing, some in front of a chair, some off to the side by the water jug, but no one

sat down. For the next few minutes, as the second team played its hearts out on the floor, the benched starters transformed into the loudest fans in the gym. They clapped constantly, shouting encouragement to their teammates; Memorial Hall hasn't seen people yell that loud since the infamous Dave Levine and Mike Cassel roamed the stands. The standing players probably tripled the amount of volume in the gym that day, and as they remained out of the game for the next 5 minutes or so, their cheering did not diminish.

When the starters were put back into the game, the lead had shrunk from 12 to 9. The second unit played tough defense and hustled all over the court, picking up the intensity and setting the tone for the rest of the game. The score was 46-37 when the starters returned; the final score of the game was 80-57. For the last 10 minutes or so, the Mules outscored the Bears 34-20. The intensity of the Mules was unmatched by Ursinus, and it seemed as if every loose ball and every hustle play was being won by the Mules. The once

SEE CLAPPING  
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# Mules sweep the track at home invitational

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

While Muhlenberg track coach Brad Hackett was busy making sure the Mules' home meet ran smoothly, there was one thing he didn't have to worry about: his team taking care of

wining events.

The Mules claimed first place finishes in over half the events at the Muhlenberg Invitational, which was held Friday night in the John Dietrich field house.

Standout junior Alexandra Faust claimed four top finishes, breaking two of her school records in the 55 (7.57) and pole vault (12'1"), hitting the NCAA provisional mark in vault. Faust also won the long jump (15'10") and anchored the winning 4 X 400 relay (4:26.19).

Faust was not the only repeat winner. Freshman jumper Marc Brookland clenched first place long jump (21'3") and triple jump (43'2"). Freshman Joe Tritto took care of the throws with a winning shot putt toss of 46-8.

The men also fared well on the track. Junior Jeremiah Lachaud won the 55 (6.65) and took second in the 200 (24.19). The men swept the 400 meter, led by freshman Peter Rice (52.94), junior Bill Ryan (53.47) and sophomore Bobby Torphy (53.87) respectively. Rice and Dolan were also members of the winning 4 X 400 relay team (3:37.26).

On the ladies' side of the track, 'Berg swept the 800 meter. Junior Jennifer Lynch (2:28.20) claimed first, followed by freshmen Nicolette Miller (2:31.01) and Kimberlee Yalango (2:31.62). Senior Lucy Brock took first in the 55 meter hurdles (9.19), and her co-captain Amanda Martini claimed second in the triple jump, setting a personal record of 32-3.



Junior Brendan Kirk hurdles past the competition for the Mules.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Centennial logjam

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

Saturday's tough loss to McDaniel, the Mules find themselves entering this week as one of 5 teams tied with a record of 6-6. For those 5 teams, there are only two playoff spots available; the Mules have a dogfight in front of them if they are to make the playoffs. This week sees the Mules travel to Haverford and Gettysburg, both of which hope to secure a playoff spot of their own, and an independent game with rival DeSales to begin next week.

The Mules trip to Haverford is really an intriguing story. For the past few seasons, Haverford has been led by senior Chaz Thomas, an athletic guard picked by many to be Centennial Player of the Year this season. After a disappointing 2-6 start in the Conference, Thomas left the team, leading most to believe the Haverford season was over. But somehow, some way, Haverford responded by winning 4 Conference games in an 8 day span to even their league record at 6-6. When the Mules and Fords last met, the Mules dominated to the tune of 73-41 victory. Hopefully Wednesday's game at Haverford will include a similarly dominating performance by the Mules.

The Mules' weekend game is a trip to Gettysburg to face the Bullets, who enter the week in third place with an 8-4 Conference record. When the

All of a sudden, there is a logjam in the middle of the Centennial Conference standings. With

the Mules find themselves entering this week as one of 5 teams tied with a record of 6-6. For those 5 teams, there are only two playoff spots available; the Mules have a dogfight in front of them if they are to make the playoffs. This week sees the Mules travel to Haverford and Gettysburg, both of which hope to secure a playoff spot of their own, and an independent game with rival DeSales to begin next week.

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The Mules' weekend game is a trip to Gettysburg to face the Bullets, who enter the week in third place with an 8-4 Conference record. When the

Mules met the Bullets earlier this year, Muhlenberg opened up a 17 point lead before watching the final score be 2 points in favor of Gettysburg. Maybe the best way to get the taste of a 17 point collapse out of your mouth is to beat that same opponent on their own floor.

With an injury and a few substitution changes, the Mules are seeing contributions from a few different faces than earlier in the season. Junior Zach Rosenberg has emerged as a starter, sharpshooter, and all-around hustler for the Mules. Junior Brian Frankoski, put into the starting lineup due to an injury to senior Chris MacIntosh, played extremely well last week for the Mules, dishing out 8 assists against Ursinus and committing only 1 turnover against McDaniel.

If the Mules want to float to the top of the Conference logjam, they are going to need contributions from up and down the roster. The inside dominance of junior Pete Barnes and freshman Spencer Liddic needs to continue, as those two need to avoid any future foul trouble.

The deep-threat trio of Rosenberg, junior Ryan Foster, and sophomore Even Tozer need to shoot the ball well, and the Mules bench needs to stay ready for action. Don't be surprised if a senior, be it Mike Bernardini, Darrel Roth, Tim Murray, or MacIntosh, steps in and plays a role in the final few games. When the season is on the line, leadership and heart find a way to rise to the top- hopefully high enough to earn the Mules a playoff spot.

### CLAPPING

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Mules victory.

Maybe I'm making too much of a deal of a small event. Perhaps I'm blowing the whole incident out of proportion. But when you consider

competitive game quickly turned into another dominant

the success that Coach Rohn's program has had over the past few years, the scene of five starters standing and cheering perfectly symbolizes why the Mules have been so successful.

The Mules may be breaking records and making history, but they seem to be only concerned with winning, and winning the right way. The

incident is a testimony to the team and the program, an example of how a selfless basketball team is often a victorious one. So next time you go see the Women's Team in action, expect to see the bench cheering and clapping, and expect to see the scoreboard in favor of the Mules.

## Preseason favorites win marquee matchups

With week three of the IM basketball season being cut short due to both Super Bowl Sunday and 100 Days for seniors on Wednesday, there are less games this week than any other week this season. But for the lack of quantity in the third week, the increase in quality has more than made up for it. In the marquee matchup, the Game of the Week, the last two undefeated teams in the A league squared off Monday night. The matchup between Team Wish and Kon Tiki had all the hype heading into the game, with both teams holding impressive undefeated records and a number of quality wins. Well, the game lived up to its hype. After a sluggish start, Team Wish ran off one of their patented runs to open up a 16 point lead at

halftime, 34-18, with junior Brian Ward providing the bulk of the offense.

As the second half got underway, Kon Tiki slowly started to control the game. Led by the hot-hand of junior Chris Trapp, Kon Tiki sped up the pace of the game and took Team Wish out of their comfort zone. With only a few minutes left in the game, Team Wish's large lead had evaporated, and only 2 points separated the two teams. But 2 points was as close as Kon Tiki would get, as Team Wish scored the last 5 points of the game en route to a 55-49. Team Wish is now the lone undefeated team left, and alone atop the A league standings.

The B league also saw a matchup

of two undefeated squads on Monday night. The defending runner-ups, the SeaTurtles, squared-off against the Boats N Stoges squad to battle for first place in the B league. A dominant start by the SeaTurtles established an 18 point lead, and it looked as if the game may be over by the middle of the first half. But a stubborn Boats N Stoges squad fought back, cutting the deficit to a manageable 7 points. In the end, however, the SeaTurtles reopened their large lead and cemented a convincing and dominant win. It would not be surprising to see these two teams meet again much later in the season, perhaps on the floor of Memorial Hall during Final Four week.

### Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

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## From IM rags to varsity riches: The Zach Rosenberg story

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

Over the past few years, there has been a consistent trend of basketball players leaving the confines of Memorial Hall, "the Mecca of Centennial Conference basketball," and joining the madness that is Intramurals across the hall in the Field House. Players such as alumni Jeff Stewart, Brian Zuravnsky and Steve Kopecki all cashed in their varsity gear for a once in a lifetime shot at the coveted IM Champs shirt. Even current players such as senior Joe Gogel gave up his dreams of DIII glory for a chance at the immortality that goes hand-in-hand with intramural greatness. Well, finally someone has broken the mold; finally someone has crossed the hallway and headed in the opposite direction. Finally an intramural alum is making his mark at the varsity level.

For the past week, junior Zach Rosenberg has been starting for the Mules Men's Basketball team and has been a key ingredient in the team's success. But Rosenberg hasn't always been a starter for the Mules. In fact, a mere two years ago he was only a sub on the Mules' now defunct JV team. Zach's journey begins where most players' journeys end, in the Field House. As a freshman, Zach had hopes for making the varsity team, but had realistic expectations. "I never really thought I was going to make the team since I wasn't really recruited and I practically came in as a walk-on. Coach Madeira had told me that I would have an opportunity to play for the JV team and I was just taking everything in stride because I really just wanted to play as much as I could," Rosenberg said. Well, Zach got what he expected when he was informed there would not be a spot on the varsity roster for him. He was given the chance to play on the JV squad but, only 8 games a season would not satisfy his hunger for jump-shots, assists and rebounds.

Rosenberg remembers being in the weight room one day with junior Brian Ward after they were both cut, when senior William Wishart, then a sophomore, approached Rosenberg and asked him to join his Intramural team. "Little did I know" remembers Rosenberg, exactly what joining Team Wish had entailed. Rosenberg led the team of sophomores and freshman to a dominant season, culminating in an undefeated championship. "We had a great group of guys," Rosenberg remarked. "We played with an unbelievable chemistry and we all just loved to share the ball and play as a team. It's not something you find to often in an intramural league." Well the team played with more than just an unbelievable chemistry, for they mowed through the competition, easily defeating impressive teams, including Jeff Stewart's Team Z, Kalamazoo, and of course the former phi teams. Rosenberg was the league's dominant perimeter player, knocking down countless three-pointers from all over the court, and spear-heading an offensive behemoth in Team Wish. Rosenberg concluded about his intramural days, "Up until now, IM's was the greatest year of basketball I ever played."

The following season, Rosenberg again tried out for the varsity squad, except this time he was given a spot on Coach Dave Madeira's squad. Rosenberg says he was surprised when he made the team, but no one who saw him in the Field House the previous year had any doubts he was good enough to make, and play on, the varsity team. On opening night, in the first game of the 2007 Scotty Wood tournament, Rosenberg demonstrated to all what the intramural guys already knew: he can flat out play basketball.

In only 18 minutes of action, Rosenberg scored 11 points on 4-of-6 shooting, and pulled down a team-high 9 rebounds. But Rosenberg's season would prove to be all downhill from there, as he played only 4 minutes the rest of the season. Over winter vacation, playing for the United States Maccabi Team in an international tournament in Argentina, Rosenberg fractured his tibial plateau. In the championship game against the host Argentina squad, while under the impression that it was only an LCL sprain, Rosenberg was able to score 21 points in defeat. When he returned

to campus his leg was still not healed and the MRI that followed confirmed that it was broken. Rosenberg was sidelined for the rest of the season. "I was definitely heartbroken, and just really devastated. I was on crutches for the rest of the season and I missed a lot of opportunities to play down the stretch that year. Injuries are awful but more importantly I missed a lot of opportunities to help out the team" said Rosenberg. Zach's season was over before it ever really began.

Entering his junior campaign, Rosenberg, with limited expectations again, suffered yet another setback. Hampered by constant hamstring problems, Rosenberg missed most of the 2008-2009 preseason. On a team returning almost its entire lineup, missing the first few weeks is no way to earn playing time. So for the first 14 games of the season, Rosenberg hardly saw the court at all, seeing action in only 2 of those games. Then, amidst a mid-season blowout loss at Washington College, Rosenberg finally got his opportunity to shine. He capitalized on every minute of playing time, showing his obvious ability and true grit.

In their game at Washington, the Mules entered the locker room facing a 19 point deficit. Midway through the second half, the starters and key reserves were pulled, and the seldom used third-string players were given an opportunity to play. "We were just waiting for our chance to play," Rosenberg said of the third unit players. He continued, "We don't get a lot of chances, so when we do, we make sure we always play hard." Well Rosenberg did a lot more than just play hard, as he shot 3-5 from deep downtown, and added 5 rebounds and 3 steals to his 9 points in only 8 minutes of play. When the third unit entered the game, the Mules were down 23 points; they lost by only 10.

Apparently Rosenberg had done enough in only those 8 minutes of action to earn the trust of Coach Madeira, for in the next game against Swarthmore, Rosenberg was inserted into the starting lineup. Although he only played 9 minutes and went 0-3 from the field, Rosenberg had earned his spot on the court. In the next two games, a crucial win against Ursinus and a close loss to McDaniel, Rosenberg remained not only in the starting lineup but also a key player for the Mules. In those two games, Rosenberg scored 12 and 8 points, pulled-down 5 and 6 rebounds, and registered 3 and 5 assists respectively. If the Mules are going to make a serious bid for the conference playoffs, the team is going to need Rosenberg to continue to play well.

"I feel lucky," states Rosenberg, "Not too many people get this opportunity, starting for a playoff contender and being surrounded by supportive teammates. But I'm just going to keep playing hard and hopefully I can help spark a run to the playoffs."

Rosenberg's storybook journey, filled with numerous twists and turns, could be the script for any Hollywood movie: from winning championships as a part of Team Wish, to riding the bench, to starting and playing significant minutes on the varsity team. The epoch of Zach Rosenberg is far from over, as he has yet to reach his potential.



Junior Zach Rosenberg has made the ultimate comeback.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 15

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2009

# Relay for Life kicks off

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

The evening of Wed., Feb. 4 marked the Kickoff of what everyone hopes will be another successful year of Relay for Life at the College. Relay for Life is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and will be held this year on Apr. 26 from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. at Scotty Wood Stadium.

The Kickoff boasted an attendance of over fifty interested students, many of whom added their painted purple handprints to the banner of support. Also known as Purple 101, the Kickoff turned Seegers Great Room into a sea of purple, from outfits to handprints and even the snack table.

Katie Henley '11 began the night's events by introducing herself as the president of Colleges Against Cancer and the Co-Chair of Relay for Life. "I relay because I want everyone who gets cancer to become a survivor," Katie said.

Her introduction was followed by the testimonies of other members of the exec board, all dressed in purple, who told of family members or friends they knew who had passed away from of were living survivors of cancer. Others simply spoke of their passion for the cure for the disease.

"I relay so that cancer becomes history," one member of the exec board said.

With a motto of "Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back," Relay for Life works with the American Cancer Society to "represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported and that one day - cancer will be eliminated," as taken from the Relay website.

After a discussion explaining what Relay for Life is, Relay executives were proud to remind the crowd that the College chapter was ranked number one in funding throughout the Lehigh Valley for Relay last year. The College raised a total of \$46,000 last year, and hopes to make the total even higher this April.

In support of Relay for Life, the College a-capella groups the Chiamonics, who also dressed in purple, and the Acafellas performed at the Kickoff. With rousing performances such as "Walking on Sunshine" by the Chiamonics and the moving rendition of "Stand by Me" that the Acafellas ended the night with, students in attendance were all impressed.

A video was also shown to give everyone an idea of what Relay is like here at the College. It showed not only students but teachers, parents, administrators, and local adults all walking the

track at Scotty Wood Stadium last year. The video is available on YouTube by searching "Relay for Life Muhlenberg College."

Also for interested students, the simple registration for Relay for Life is available online at [www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege](http://www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege), where the Relay exec board asks that everyone sign up in teams. "We need everyone to sign up for teams," an excited Henely said after the Kickoff. "We can't have a successful Relay without the support of everyone on campus, so please help out and start fundraising!"

Students can also help and show their support by contributing to the many Relay promotion events that are currently happening on campus. The Carnations for a Cure sale, in which carnations and roses can be purchased for two and three dollars each to be delivered to a friend or a special someone for Valentine's Day, will be sold in Seegers until Thurs., Feb. 12 and delivered on Fri., Feb. 13.

Also, starting soon, Relay will begin the sale of "Steps for a Cure." Students will be able to purchase and personalize purple paper feet that will be laminated and lead the way from Seegers to Scotty Wood Stadium on the day of Relay, April 26. This will definitely a day to mark on the calendar.

# Student Body speaks out

By Eirinn Disbrow  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

On Tues., Feb. 10 Student Government hosted the first Student Body meeting of the semester by the couches in Seegers Union. Sara Keller '10, Student Body President, began the meeting by having each member of Student Government address the Student Body about their specific position's new business.

Each class President then announced their plans for the rest of the semester, mentioning upcoming events such as Mr. Muhlenberg, senior class pub nights, and "Pulse."

The Student Government chairs were the next to speak, starting with Angela Lucci, Academics Chair, informing the Student Body of her plans to establish a Jewish Studies major. Matt Pearson, Communications chair, mentioned Student Governments plan to begin filming the meetings for students to view on MCTV.

Jordan Sones spoke for Xavier for the Technology Committee, in which he announced that South, Robertson, Moyer, and parts of the Center for the Arts and Trexler Pavillion will have wireless by the time students return from spring break. He is also working to put the library's video archive on the internet so that students will be able to download videos onto their computer and watch them from their room.

Other announcements from chairs included a reminder that the Henry Awards SEE STUDENT BODY | PAGE 6



Members of the Student Government gather after the meeting.

PHOTO BY EIRINN DISBROW



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Decisions, decisions

It's only February, or is it already February? Tough "what am I doing with my future" questions seem far away, but at the same time, unbearably close. For underclassmen, the decisions regarding housing, majors, and classes for next year are quickly approaching. And while graduating seniors can toss those housing notices and flyers into the recycle bin, it is only a tiny weight off their shoulders.

Bombarded with emails regarding resumes, cover letters, and visiting alumni are helpful, but let's be honest, also stressful. They are constant reminders that it's time to move on, get a job, and become "real people." We have become comfortable in our routines, whatever they may be, and it will undoubtedly be difficult to shake them off for new ones.

It has been said that everyone makes five important decisions in his/her life. The first decision is where to go to college. Check that one off the list, only four to go. Next up is where to work, closely linked with the third decision, where to live. Do we pursue a job, or let one come to us? The third decision, which for some lucky people is made closely after college, is who to marry and whether or not to start a family. And lastly, when and where we choose to retire; far in the future, but an important decision nonetheless. With all these decisions ahead, it can be tempting to crawl under a blanket and pretend it will all magically disappear.

Fast approaching for all college students, especially ones graduating, is their choice of profession. Your decision concerning where to work is extremely important because it determines where you will spend a great deal of time in your life. Hopefully, for most, each decision you make will help influence the rest, and everything that you want in life will fall into place as comfortably as your life here has done. While we can all hope for that, we know that right now it will be a lot of hard work and risk taking to get where we want to go, and to have the things that we want. We know everything is achievable. All anyone has to do is take that first tiny step towards it.

It is scary and hard, but we all have to grow up some time, and sorry to burst your bubbles seniors, but that time is coming now. So stand up everyone, and ready? Left foot first....

## Where is Obama leading our nation?

By Matthew Cobaugh  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

With the inauguration of Barack Obama there is much debate about how he's going to govern. One way that the professors at the

College have been predicting how he will govern is by evaluating his campaign speeches. I remember the day after the inauguration one of my professors supplied my class with a transcript of Obama's inauguration speech. Due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to watch Obama's speech live so I used the opportunity to read his speech. From what I had heard from the many political pundits on both the right and left, the speech was not Obama's best. I definitely have to agree. I think the defining difference is that this speech was supposedly written by Obama himself whereas his campaign speeches were scripted by David Axelrod. It's no surprise to me, however, that his speech was a flop because he's the one who actually wrote it. Not yet have we been able to see any of Obama's papers he wrote in college. Recently, there has even been debate about whether Obama even wrote his books, but that's an argument for another day.

There was a certain aspect of Obama's speech that hit me like a ton of bricks. Obama said, "... begin again the work of remaking America." To the average reader those words seem just fine. To me, however, they are very troubling. President Obama did not choose to say "rebuild America" or say "rejuvenate America." No, President Obama chose the word "remake" very carefully. Exactly how he's going to remake her, we're very unsure. Judging by his fiendish attitude and haste surrounding the massive stimulus package in Congress, he has not held restraint at pushing government intervention and socialism. Even if you disagree with me, the fact is that President Obama plans to "remake" the greatest nation in the world. He plans to make her into something different than she already is, instead of returning or rebuilding her on the solid principles which have given us the highest standard of living in the history of mankind.

This is not an argument of policy or right versus left, this is an argument of principle. Where does Obama want to take this nation? The fact that he wants to "remake" her is troubling enough to me. What we have been since the nation's birth 200 years ago has freed man's mind for the first time in 4,000 years. With the highest standard of living and life styles never imagined nearly 200 years ago, I don't want America remade, I want her rebuilt to what she was created on. I love this country for what she has been and what she has given me. I'll take her and her many flaws any day.

## Tyranny of the Majority

By Ian Costello  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

As most of you have not heard, I, Ian Costello, one of the seven Representatives of the Class of 2009, had my election annulled last Thursday at the Student Government meeting. This secret annulment itself is not the topic of choice for this article, but the process that surrounded the decision is. This debauchery of a proceeding is the quintessential experience of the Muhlenberg Student Government. While I most certainly did not see eye to eye with many of the processes by which things were done in the government, I kept quiet in the interest of my continued existence in the government's good graces. Now that I, quite literally have nothing to lose, I feel it is only proper to extend my experience to the whole of the student body.

I was elected by the voting membership of the Student Government, part way through last semester to represent the Class of 2009. Since that first meeting I have been, as I am sure many in the Student Government can attest, a bit of a thorn in their side. I did this only because I wanted Student Government to become a well-oiled political machine that was effective, transparent, accountable, and representative. I think back now, and wonder if the point was lost amongst harsh rhetoric and cutting accusations, but I will

apologize for none of it. I had a vision of a student body represented by officers they chose in an election where the vast majority of students participated, not to support their friends but because they cared about the platform upon which each candidate ran. I saw a student government whose members were active in achieving the trust and respect of their constituents by fair and equal representation. I hoped for a vast array of media that made the actions and progress of such a government open and easy to access by the student body. Instead, I found a web of deception and disorder.

In order to better understand the reason my election was annulled I will give a brief description of what occurred. I have been advocating for the separation of the role of Class Representatives from Student Government and Class Councils. I was not alone in this battle, but the others were not as adamant as myself. I thought it prudent then to demonstrate my resolve by boycotting the Class Council meetings.

In the meeting in which my election was rescinded, the true anarchic nature of the Muhlenberg Student Government reared its ugly head. The only legislature I was effectively able to pass last semester, a pro-con-pro system, was

completely thrown out the window as a deluge of petty feel good fluff was thrown at me to try to get me to back down from my stance. I told them that is was an issue of principles, not of legacy. Then in ever nauseating circles the meeting descended into its typical squabble where my intentions, and the principles of the Student Government, were debated over and over.

It would not be far from the truth if I was to say that each point was visited at least four or five times, just so each person in the room could hear themselves say it. The degenerate hubris that clouds the judgment of that room has, since my election, done much to confuse those who enter it with an open mind.

Thus, the tyranny of the majority has clasped its vicious claws around third floor Haas. The ideas of free thought and open mindedness have been forced to the rear while the groupthink of the mob majority has taken hold of the elected voters. In this way, the Student Government has earned from me a vote of no confidence. I must ask it, on behalf of the traditions of true democracy and effective constituent representation, to resign itself.

*In the meeting in which my election was rescinded, the true anarchic nature of the Muhlenberg Student Government reared its ugly head*



# Obama's first press conference:

## The economy, Iran, and A-Rod



**World News  
&  
Politics**

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

President Obama has hit the road to rally support for his economic stimulus plan, which has now been passed in both the House and the Senate. The differences in the two versions of the bill are going to be hammered out over the weekend, yet at its core the bill will provide significant

*The economic stimulus plan will provide significant spending on education, healthcare, and technology while providing tax cuts for the middle and lower class.*

education, healthcare, and technology while providing tax cuts for middle and lower class Americans. Action needed to be taken with the economy still struggling, yet whether or not this plan works out remains to be seen. The success or failure of the legislation will certainly form an early part of Obama's legacy as a President.

In foreign policy news, Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad publicly offered face-to-face dialogue with the new administration, in response to Obama's desire to develop a more open line of communication. The Bush strategy towards Iran had no success, and with

*Obama rightly expressed his disappointment and questioned whether or not this entire era of baseball has been tarnished.*

their economy crumbling around them, it isn't a surprise that Iran would be more open to talks with America. However, the fact that President Ahmadinejad is open to dialogue doesn't really mean anything since he could be out of office in a

few months. The only person in Iran who has the power to change relations for the better with U.S. is Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who hasn't spoken since Obama has taken office.

President Obama held a press conference the other night which addressed a variety of issues, although it was predominantly focused on the stimulus. Despite all the problems our country is facing right now, a question about baseball actually was asked. The President was asked about his reaction to the revelation

that baseball's best player, Alex Rodriguez, has admitted to using steroids from 2001-2003. He rightly expressed his disappointment and questioned whether or not this entire era of baseball has been tarnished.

Switching gears for a second from politics to sports, I have to agree with the President that this entire era has in fact been ruined by the

prevalence of steroids in the sport. Do you really believe A-Rod's bogus interview about him not knowing or understanding what he was taking back then or the fact the says he has been clean since? Barry Bonds breaks the home record because of steroids and now A-Rod is probably going to break his record, after being found guilty of also using illegal substances. The most recent report found another 104 players guilty of using steroids in Major League Baseball, how could this timeframe in baseball history not be called "The Steroid Era?" It is a shame how every record, game, and event now has a potential asterisk next to it.

Rodriguez is a player who is obsessed with his image and his historical legacy. This obsession has led to him being one of the most unpopular players in the league. The guy just can't be himself. For somebody who cares so much about his image/historical legacy, you know it has to kill him inside that he now may never end up in the Hall of Fame because of these test results.

## Sports figures as role models

By Ben Levine  
LIFE! EDITOR

It seems that the morality of athletes is at an all-time low. Michael Vick was convicted of dog fighting; Barry Bonds, Sammy Sosa, Mark

McGuire, and Rafael Palmero were convicted (as of now by the public, but later probably by a judge and jury) of steroid use: Practically everyone on the Cincinnati Bengals has committed a crime. Adam "Pac Man" Jones made it rain in a gentleman's club, even Michael Jordan had trouble with gambling, and now Michael Phelps has admitted to smoking marijuana and Alex Rodriguez allegedly tested positive for steroids in 2003. It has been argued that the money and fame also comes with a responsibility to the public to be role models. Therefore, they must behave in a particular way and live up to our standards. The question is: should we be looking up to these people in the first place?

These athletes do have a responsibility to the children who look up to them. Children, who are at an impressionable age, are susceptible to follow the actions of those whom they look up to. In a society where parents are nowhere to be found, children must find their own role models. When a kid outgrows cartoons, or even before, he may turn to following sports. One of the favorite topics of discussion on shows like SportsCenter is the latest run-in with the law of our beloved athletes. A child, who has inevitably picked athletes to idolize, sees that one of his favorite athletes has committed a crime. There is certainly an anxiety among our society that children will see these actions and assume that, because their favorite football player took steroids, that this behavior is okay. There is also a concern that a child will see his favorite player fall from grace and will be deeply saddened by this discovery.

People are quick to become nostalgic about athletes of old. However, athletes have been behaving badly for years. In the early days of baseball, Ty Cobb was a notoriously dirty player. He used to sharpen his spikes before a game. On one instance, he was beamed by an opposing pitcher. At his next at bat, he laid a bunt down the first base side. When the pitcher ran to pick up the ball, Cobb knocked him over and dug his spikes into his chest, cutting open his chest and sending him to the hospital. The Black Sox scandal of the 1919 World Series, in which eight players were implicated in a conspiracy to throw the World Series for money, also showed

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# Bottled water!

By Jeff Christie  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Last week, EnACT held a week-long information period and petition signing to remove bottled water from the College's campus. Though I disagree with EnACT's resolve, I believe they have the freedom to lobby for whatever cause they choose. It's my belief that every group and person on campus has a right to do exactly what EnACT was doing, educating the College campus on something they believe is right. What made me upset and prompted me to write this article objecting to their cause was the real, and most ridiculous, fact that our own Student Government is co-sponsoring EnACT's petition. Our elected student representatives taking EnACT's side to remove bottled water from campus is monumentally absurd.

After discovering that our Student Government is entangled in this mess, I decided to do some research of my own. I found, from talking to Student Government leaders, that they see this cause as a purely positive publicity stunt. The Student Government might not actually agree that stopping the sale of bottled water on campus will save any aspect of the environment, but they'll do it for the publicity. I wonder if the Student Government actually thought this idea through. They clearly think that doing any activity is seen as a good thing in students' eyes and portrays them as a productive aspect to this campus. Student Government has to realize that just doing anything at all does not mean they will receive positive feedback from students. I doubt the student body is going to get a warm fuzzy feeling knowing they're helping the environment when the Student Government restricts their freedom to buy bottled water.

Also, when the students learn that they will be forced to supply their own containers filled with bad tasting city water, the Student Government will have more bad publicity than they anticipated.

Removing bottled water on campus plain and simple will not have any calculable effect on the environment. There won't even be a measurable reduction in waste or recycled waste output from the campus. The next fact to consider is that by removing bottled water, students will simply replace their demand for a quick, transportable, refreshing treat by buying other liquids in a plastic bottle. This means the "detrimental" plastic bottles

of water will merely be replaced with plastic Gatorade containers, or soda pop bottles. On the subject of manufactured refreshments, we have to consider the obvious emissions due to the manufacturing. In fact, I resolve that water has the least impact on the environment simply for the manufacturing emissions for water is virtually zero when compared to any other artificial liquid like soda or Gatorade. On the subject of plastic we can consider that students will most likely get free water from one of the three eating facilities on campus. However, students will simply start using plastic cups to hold their water. Once again, we've effectively not achieved any reduction of plastic. Finally, students are less likely to recycle their plastic cups after using them than they are to recycle their plastic water bottles.

I question whether the Student Government considered that Sodexo is a private company which the College hires to provide us food. The problem with this is that a significant amount of profit Sodexo generates is through the sale of bottled water to students. What's to keep Sodexo from not renewing their contract with the College after our Student Government tells them they can no longer make money through the sale of bottled water?

Furthermore, we need to consider the students' rights. How many of you have swipes left over at the end of the semester? Usually, you can use up these swipes to buy cases of bottled water. How many of you go to purchase a meal and have a dollar or two left until it reaches \$4.90? Usually, you can get a bottle of water or two so you don't waste the two dollars. The Student Government is trying to take that right away from you.

I believe that we all have the freedom to do as we please. If you are a student who still sees the pros outweighing the cons to not using bottled water, then you have the freedom to exercise your belief. However, I like to drink bottled water on occasion and I object strongly to the notion of forcing others to conform to one person's beliefs. I like to have the freedom to buy bottled water if I want some. To all student Government officials, stop forcing your ridiculous green initiatives down my throat!

# Just tap it

By Steve Epting  
ENACT CO-PRESIDENT

We have all heard the statistics...and if you haven't, here they are. This year, Americans will spend \$40 billion on bottled water, 25% of which is simply repackaged tap water. It requires 4 ounces of oil to produce, package, and deliver 16 ounces of bottled water. Ninety percent of disposable water bottles are not recycled, contributing to the millions of pounds of discarded plastic currently floating in the Pacific Ocean.

So here is the billion dollar question (\$40 billion to be exact): why not just drink tap water? After all, it is, on average, 900 times cheaper than bottled water. The two most common responses, at least from students at the College, are taste and convenience. It is true that some bottling companies remove the chlorine (used as a disinfectant) from tap water to reduce its aftertaste. But among students who tried a blind water taste test at our "Just Tap It" table this past week, more than half could not taste a difference between filtered tap water and bottled water. And for those who can tell the difference: is it worth paying \$1.29 more for bottled water than what comes out of the tap? As someone who carries a reusable bottle, I will tell you that aside from a weekly soap wash in my sink, I am no more inconvenienced than a student who is buying disposable water bottles.

Every day hundreds of water bottles are sold at the College, each having an average lifetime of just a few hours before being discarded. And though it is often hard to make the connection between our dining swipes and real cash, we are spending incredible amounts of money for a resource that is available for free just a few steps away. It seems illogical that we would spend so many more economic and natural resources to obtain the same three-atom molecule that is, fortunately, readily available in our bathrooms, kitchens, and water fountains; it's all the same H<sub>2</sub>O. It is just as easy (and cheaper) to pick up a Brita filter, reusable bottle, or a CamelBak for those really concerned about the time and convenience issue.

In response to this concern, EnACT is teaming up with President Helm's Greening Committee and committed students from the "Just Tap It" campaign to encourage the College community to throw away disposable water bottles for good. If you feel motivated to join our effort you can sign the Just Tap It petition to remove disposable water bottles from campus. In return, we are offering three simple steps - Step #1: get yourself a reusable water bottle, Step #2: fill up at one of the many filtered water fountains around campus, and finally Step #3: feel good that you are not only saving hundreds of dollars a semester but that you are doing good for the environment.

# When a joke goes too far

By T.E. Lawrence  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

I have no issues with freedom of speech and people pushing boundaries. Comedians frequently use crude humor that crosses lines and may offend a number of people. I have no problem with that because the people who heard these jokes know that crude humor is a possibility when they buy the tickets. But when people cross the line in a public setting, I feel obligated to respond.

Last week, a non-college sponsored media outlet ran their "second bi-annual sex survey" and, if some of the content does not change, let's hope it's the last. It should be expected, and accepted, that jokes about body parts and bodily fluids will appear on student sponsored sex surveys; let's face it, sexuality is a funny subject. On the other hand, jokes regarding the use of violence to terminate pregnancies should never be expected or tolerated.

On the survey in question there were thirty-three raunchy questions, none of which I had any problem with. What caught my eye and raised my ire were two possible responses to the ninth question. The question was "Favorite form of contraception?" to which there were seven possible answers. The two choices I had issues with were "a right hook" and "stairs." The fact that the club associated with this survey could have approved of these two answers shows an inherent lack of judgment and a disre-

gard for the sensitivity of others.

Violence, in any form, should never be tolerated. Violence against pregnant women is especially heinous and is uniformly regarded with abhorrence. Just two weeks ago, on Jan. 28, two pregnant women were assaulted in Kansas City, one of whom was knocked to the ground and repeatedly kicked in the uterus by another adult. Fortunately, both the mother and baby are okay and out of the hospital. It goes without explanation that there is nothing comical about this incident, nor is there anything funny about the 240,000 similar incidents that occur each year according to the American Pregnancy Association.

For argument's sake, assume that the ideas for these two responses were brought up in the context of jokes made between members of the club. I understand that jokes between friends can go over the edge without the fear of offending someone else. Many jokes have been made while hanging out with my friends that would cause Phyllis Diller to blush, but we have the sensibility not to repeat them to others.

I am not looking for an apology from this club. All I am asking of them is that better judgment be exercised when making potentially offensive jokes. The least I can hope for is that the next time this sex survey is published it will be devoid of any jokes pertaining to violence...unless they have to do with "bondage."



# The Government goes pig wrangling

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Back in 2004, one of my favorite comedians, Lewis Black, talked about the greedy actions of executives at Tyco, Adelphia, Enron, and other companies that made people who invested in them go broke. He said, "The word 'greed' doesn't even apply to them. There should be a new word for that type of greed - it should be 'piggy piggy piggy [expletive] piggy piggy'."

With a new recession that we are living in, executives still haven't learned their lesson, since this time they're doing it with federal money instead of stockholder money. Their actions make me think that we should add an additional expletive to Mr. Black's term for greed so that it can apply to them.

Many big banks have received money from the government so that they don't fail in the bad economy. In theory, they should be using this money to bring back liquidity into the market so that they can start lending again. However, executives of these banks have been acting like greedy pigs, to say the least, with the money that they've been given. They are still giving their top work-

ers bonuses when it was their decisions that got them in such dire straits in the first place. Citigroup, one of the hardest hit banks, was looking into buying a new \$50 million jet. Also, Wells Fargo was going to send its top employees to a corporate junket in Las Vegas.

When I heard about that last item on the news, I got angry. You mean to tell me that liquidity is still terrible and banks still aren't lending money, but instead they can use it to reward executives that have been doing less-than-stellar jobs? This is taxpayers' money that they're spending. The original bailout package had minimal oversight for where the money was going and how it could be used, and this is what happens.

Thankfully, the government is starting to take action in response to the greedy actions of the bank executives. President Obama - who I have not been completely impressed by thus far in terms of his handling of the economy - has proposed putting a cap on the pay of executives working for troubled companies receiving government money. Senator Claire McCaskill, a Democrat from Missouri, has been on the news networks talking about a bill for those working at bailed out

companies that would limit their pay to \$400,000 - the same amount of money that the president, our country's highest paid federal officer makes.

I wholeheartedly welcome these proposals. However, there are many who would say that this is socialism. To begin with, giving the failing banks \$700 billion to get out of the mess that they created means that they're already somewhat nationalized, meaning that we're already practicing socialism (though with not enough regulations). It is the duty of the government to dictate the pay of people that receive money from them - and that includes the bailed out banks. If we don't have a say in where this money can go, then what point was there in bailing the banks out?

The fact is that the banks are spending our money now and they need to use it for the common good. If they can't show discipline with government money on their own volition, then the government has a right to tell them to not waste money on frivolous junk and rewarding themselves. Their money is our money now, and I don't want it being wasted on a multi-million dollar bonus for executives.

## ROLE MODELS

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athletes in a less than positive light. It goes back to at least 5th century BC Greece. Cleomedes, a Greek Olympic athlete, killed his opponent with a tactic which was later ruled illegal. When he was accused of cheating, his prize was rescinded. In a rage, he killed sixty children by causing the roof of their school house to collapse.

There are clearly enough instances to prove that athletes are not automatically heroes and thus it should not be assumed that they are. So, why is there a fascination with athletes who commit crimes? Athletes are, in fact, human beings just like the rest of us. Humans make mistakes, no matter how much more publicized they may be. This fascination with athletes who commit crimes must stem from the fact that we forget that they are humans. The spotlight that they are under gives them an aura of a divine being. Perhaps the barrage of sports news is responsible for the widely held belief that athletes are getting worse. Athletes have always been celebrities, but since the phenomena of the accessibility to sports twenty-four hours a day, they are under an unprecedented spotlight. Their superhuman exploits are shown at such a rate that their feats are imprinted in our brains.

Surely we should not stop idolizing athletes. However, it should be made clear to children - and we should remind ourselves, as well - that athletes are to be idolized for their talents and not their behavior. Athletes can be role models, but it should not be assumed that they will be. The question inevitably arises: with whom does the fault lie? In the end, everyone is at fault. Parents should be there for their children to provide a good role model and inform their children about which sports figures should be held in high esteem. Athletes make a - sometimes unspoken agreement that with the fame they receive, they also receive a responsibility to live up to society's morals, at least when they aren't behind closed doors. We must not become lazy and must constantly ask ourselves: Is this a person I should look up to?

# Injustice to the extreme

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

On October 12, 2000, an explosion ripped through the hull of the U.S.S. Cole, an American destroyer. The Al-Qaeda orchestrated bombing occurred in Aden, a Yemeni port. As the U.S.S. Cole was refueling, a small boat packed with explosives slammed into the port side of the destroyer. Seventeen American sailors were murdered that day. Even though this act of terrorism occurred nine years ago, it has gained significant attention as a result of the Obama administration's decision to halt the trial of the primary plotter behind the U.S.S. Cole bombing.

In today's modern criminal justice system, criminals who are apprehended are typically charged with a crime, tried for that crime, and sentenced according to the law of the land. But not in this situation. Thirteen Al-Qaeda prisoners, who were convicted for the U.S.S. Cole bombing, escaped from a Yemeni prison on February 3, 2006. Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, the ring leader and chief plotter, was set to

stand trial for his participation in the crime at a Military Commission hearing at Guantanamo Bay until all charges were dropped. It seems as though this crime against America has been pushed to the back burner. This case should be one of the U.S. government's top priorities.

The most startling update was the dismissal of all criminal charges against Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri. This disgraceful act of injustice came about as a result of President Obama's executive order to close the Guantanamo Bay facility within one year. In addition to closing the base, the executive order called for all court proceedings against terrorists to be stopped. So, let's recall the facts: al-Nashiri was captured in the United Arab Emirates with several forged passports containing multiple identities, admitted that he rented a small boat in Yemen prior to the bombing, was identified as the primary funding source by two other accomplices, and was convicted to death in a Yemeni court for the

murders of the 17 sailors. These blatant criminal acts seem to be indicative of a murderous motive. Despite these suspicious acts, the mastermind was set free without any criminal record. Now, al-Nashiri is free to frolic and enjoy his life to the fullest. What about those lives he so inconsiderately destroyed? Those Americans can no longer live, raise families, grow old with loved ones, or fulfill their life dreams.

*Seventeen American sailors were murdered nine years ago. Obama has decided to halt the trial of the primary plotter of this bombing.*

A sickening trend is emerging in the so-called "modern" criminal justice system. The rights of the criminals, of the wrongdoers, appear to take priority over those innocent victims they so easily took advantage of. The Obama administration participated in an act of concern by hosting the families of the U.S.S. Cole sailors, assuring them that the bad guys would be brought to justice. This is quite laughable because the man who plotted the attack has had his slate wiped clean. The halting of the trials was done in the name of reviewing and reexamining

the "operations down at Guantanamo." This is no ordinary fight against drug smugglers or petty thieves, but against terrorists who disregard the value of human life and abide by radical views. The bombing of the U.S.S. Cole was an act of war, along with the destruction of the embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and the two attacks on the World Trade Center. These acts cannot be addressed as simple crimes; they call for alternative measures, like military commission hearings.

If this behavior continues, America will be setting a precedent that will put its citizens at risk and encourage further acts of terrorism. We have to put our foot down and show these terrorists that they will not escape the grip of justice. Our soldiers, our countrymen, and our fellow Americans deserve our full commitment to holding Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri accountable for his crimes. Our troops and their families are the most deserving public servants the U.S. has. We can show them our thanks by fighting for the justice those seventeen American sailors deserve.





# “Just Tap(ped) It!” Alum runs for city council

By Caroline Aiken  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Behind a brightly colored poster in Seegers with words exclaiming “Just tap it!” two students, Brooke Cutler '12 and Josh Miller '12, tabled for the College's Environmental Action Team (EnAct). Meanwhile, Nina Pinette '09, secretary of EnAct, stood in Seegers lobby with a clipboard in hand as she stopped passerbys to ask them to sign a petition to ban the sale of bottled water on campus. “We're trying to get at least half of the student body to sign the petition,” said Nina.

According to EnAct Secretary Steven Epting '09, a total of 1,081 signatures were received over the course of the “Just tap it!” campaign. EnAct is hopeful that, in acquiring this many signatures, they will be able to negotiate with Sodexo and the greening committee about a possible ban of the sale of bottled water on campus.

The core of the “Just tap it!” campaign is to educate the students about the effects of bottled water, encourage people to choose tap water, and to advocate for the use of reusable water bottles. Interestingly, the members have also installed filters on some water fountains to show an alternative to consuming eco-unfriendly bottled water.

Furthermore, EnAct has extended their “just tap it!” campaign into the Garden Room. During meals this past week, members hosted a taste testing of bottled and tap water in order to see whether or not people were able to taste the difference between the two. The results showed that most people could not actually taste any difference between bottled and tap water, therefore giving students one less reason to purchase bottled water.

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

Muhlenberg alum, Democrat Mike Schlossberg, has announced his candidacy for Allentown City Council. Schlossberg, a 2005 graduate, is running on the platform of controlling crime and heightening the quality of life for residents.

Holding Bachelors degrees in Political Science and Psychology, Schlossberg graduated Magna Cum Laude from Muhlenberg. After graduation, he attended Lehigh University where he earned his Masters degree in Political Science. Schlossberg has served as an aide to State Representative Jennifer Mann, Lehigh County Executive Don Cunningham and is currently employed by the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce.

At the Chamber of Commerce, Schlossberg works as a Urban Revitalization Specialist where, according to his website, he works with volunteers, government officials and business owners to develop and enhance urban communities.

Mr. Schlossberg believes that by increasing the number of police officers and by utilizing every possible fund available, he can increase the public's sense of safety. On his website he also says he strives to “improve communication between city hall and city residents.”

Currently, State Representative Joseph Brennan, Allentown Councilman Peter Schweyer, Allentown Councilwoman Jeanette Eichenwald and Lehigh County Commissioner David Jones have endorsed Schlossberg, among others.

The Weekly, along with the rest of Muhlenberg College, wishes Mr. Schlossberg the best of luck with his campaign.

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## Campus Safety Notes

Feb. 2 - Sick Student - There was a sick student with a fever in Walz Hall, first floor. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were notified. Student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 2 - Sick Student - There was a sick student vomiting in Walz Hall, third floor. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were notified. The student was advised to see the Health Center the next morning.

Feb. 2 - Hit and Run - There was a hit and run at the Delta Zeta house. There appeared to be a gash in the back bumper. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 2 - Larceny/Theft - Campus Safety received an email of theft of items from reach in cooler in Sandella's. There are no suspects at this time. Investigation will continue.

Feb. 2 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm sounded in Martin Luther Hall, fourth floor. No reason was found why the detector went off. An electrician replaced it with a new unit. There was no further incident.

Feb. 2 - Suspicious Activity - In the Life Sports Center, there was a report of suspicious activity over the telephone. A reporting party received a phone call asking for a credit card number to reactivate a card. No information was given. Investigation will continue.

Feb. 2 - Larceny/Theft - A student reported stolen property off campus. There is no information at this time regarding the suspect. If anyone has any information about the thefts, the suspects, or can provide further information, please contact the Department of Campus Safety.

Feb. 2 - Disruptive Conduct - A disruptive conduct report may be issued on N. 22 Street in regards to a party that occurred over the weekend. Investigation will continue.

Feb. 3 - Lost Property - There was a report of lost prescription eyeglasses with a dark tortoise shell in Haas Center, third floor.

Feb. 3 - Fraud - Off campus there was an unauthorized use of a credit card. There is an investigation being conducted by an outside agency. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 4 - Larceny/Theft - A reporting party has been trying to contact a student who needed to return a library book but ignored emails. Campus Safety left a voice mail on the student's phone and has received no response. An officer spoke with the student who said he might have the book. The book was returned the following day.

Feb. 4 - Sick Student - In Moyer Hall, first floor, there was a report of a sick student with a fast heartbeat. The Health Center responded along with Muhlenberg College EMS. The student was taken to the Health Center.

Feb. 4 - Suspicious Person - Off campus it was reported that a neighbor tried to enter apartment building. The person was advised to call Allentown Police Department. There are no suspects at this time. Campus Safety reminds all individuals to keep their residence secured and notify Campus Safety immediately of any suspicious person or activity.

Feb. 4 - Unauthorized Person/People - In the upper level of Seegers Union, it was reported that an elderly man was roaming.

He believes he was told not to come back to campus on a previous occasion. The person was spoken to. There have been no further incidents.

Feb. 5 - Electrical Problem - In the Campus Safety Office, while a generator check was being done, the office received total power loss. OIT and Simplex were notified. An electrician was also notified to assist. Power has been restored.

Feb. 5 - Lost Property - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, a reporting party turned in a found Visa card. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Feb. 5 - Sick Student - In Walz Hall, first floor, a student called to report a high fever and chills. The Health Center and Muhlenberg College EMS were notified. The student refused medical treatment at this time.

Feb. 6 - Found Property - On Liberty Street, a person was walking his dog and found a student's wallet on the sidewalk near the bleachers. The wallet seemed intact with money and cards inside. The wallet was returned to the owner.

Feb. 6 - Institutional Vandalism - In Brown Hall, second floor, it was reported that the fire extinguisher glass case between rooms 204 and 206 have been cracked. There are no suspects at this time. Plant Operations was notified to clean and replace glass.

Feb. 6 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transportation - In South Hall, second floor, an officer was responding to another call when he saw a student with a bottle of alcohol. The student was under 21 years of age. The student was referred to Judicial.

Feb. 6 - Disorderly Conduct - In the upper level of Seegers Union, there was a report of a disruptive patron. The patron almost hit one of the workers. An officer was requested. Referred to Judicial. There is no further information at this time.

Feb. 7 - Found Property - A purse was found in the lobby of the Center for the Arts. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Feb. 7 - Hit and Run - An officer reports finding extensive damage to parked vehicle. The officer spoke with the owner. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 7 - Injured Student - In the lower level of the Trexler Pavilion, there was a report of a student who may have injured their ankle. The Health Center was notified and Muhlenberg College EMS responded. The students transported themselves to the hospital.

Feb. 7 - Fire Alarm Sounding - A fire alarm sounded at 2201 Chew St due to cooking. The system was reset and there have been no further incidents.

Feb. 7 - Trashing/Excessive Clean Up - In Prosser Hall Main, second floor, there was trashing in the stairwell. Housekeeping was notified to clean it up. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 8 - Disorderly Conduct - On N. 22 St, there was a report of a large party. Allentown Police Department responded. A disruptive conduct report will be issued.

Feb. 8 - Electrical Problem - On N. 23 St, a smoke detector went off due to burning incense. An officer responded and could not silence it. Simplex was called to respond and was

reset. Fire Safety Violations will be mailed and referred to Judicial.

Feb. 8 - Larceny/Theft - Theft from Building - A tenor sax was stolen from the band room. It is unknown to who it belongs to. The suspects were identified and referred to Judicial. Investigation will continue.

Feb. 8 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transportation - In Brown Hall, there was an alcohol violation. There were loud people in a room and empty beer cans were found on the floor. Referred to Judicial.

Feb. 8 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transportation - In Martin Luther Hall, first floor, a sick student passed out due to alcohol. Muhlenberg College EMS and Allentown EMS responded. The student was transported to the hospital and was referred to Judicial.

Feb. 8 - Injured Student - On Gordon Street, a sick student was reported involving alcohol. Allentown EMS and Muhlenberg College EMS were paged. The student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 8 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transportation - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, there was a sick student with an alcohol violation. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and was transported to the hospital. The student was referred to Judicial.

Feb. 8 - Fire Alarm Sounding - On 4219 Leh St., a fire alarm sounded due to cooking. The system was silenced and reset.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"We are always getting ready to live but never living."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

## The Possibilities of our world at our fingertips

By Samantha Sembler  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Choice seems to be the theme of this year. Involvement in this past election was stressed. The campus is littered with banners and tables trying to raise our community's awareness on issues affecting our society and environment. But, most of these choices are black or white, yes or no. What if the situations in our world were less clear-cut and forced us to make real decisions? This prospect is brought to the foreground in the first show of the Theatre department's Mainstage season, *The Possibilities* by Howard Barker.

Playing Feb. 18 to Feb. 22 in the Studio Theatre, this work is a compilation of ten scenes from various times and places in which traumatic situations are presented and choices must be made. It is a collaborative directing process between theatre department chair Jim Peck and student directors Shannon Fitzsimmons '09 and Aaron Lawson '09. Despite the broken nature of

the play, the scenes are linked through the examination of the possibilities offered in our lives. Peck says, "Barker explores what you can do when your world falls apart."

This play falls under the genre of political theatre, which typically presents issues from current events to the public in hopes of opening their eyes to the situation at hand. With the state of our world today, political theatre has been on the rise. Theatres have been producing works responding to the war our nation has been involved in for the past eight years. Also, social issues, including racism and sexism, have been brought into a better light through the use of political theatre. You will find that Howard Barker's work will help raise the audience's awareness of predicaments of our world, but in a very different way. Instead of bombarding us with information, Barker writes scenes that seem distant, but presents timeless issues that are still prevalent today. Terrorism, war, and tyranny are all addressed with the help of historical and religious figures. But

this is certainly not a documentary of the past. Historical events merely facilitate the examination of the subject matter at hand.

But where does choice fall in among the presence of current events? Most pieces of political theatre have a clear bias and tell you what to think. Barker, on the other hand, does not want to give away any easy answers. According to Peck, "a lot of political theatre is clear on what they want you to think, but this is complex and contradictory." Barker refers to his work as the "theatre of catastrophe." He aims to cross the boundaries of what people tolerate and create a real dramatic experience. Aaron Lawson finds that this work "gets to where you don't know what truth is and you can't categorize everything as good or bad." Barker includes a certain amount of ambiguity, and the directing team has had an interesting time mitigating that situation.

Political theatre has the ability to appeal to everyone. When dealing with issues prevalent in our society,

new ideas should always be presented that make us think about the choices we make everyday. This play is a truly intellectual experience in which the audience is not an idle spectator but rather an active witness. Barker's thinking belongs to what is called the "Wrestling School," in which he wants you to grapple with the ideas presented. This desire is even reflected in the process, which the actors became involved in, making about 20 different minds ponder the questions at hand. Shannon Fitzsimmons says, "Barker is not afraid to put intense situations out there and challenge the audience." It is a truly unique experience, allowing the thoughts of the production team to start a dialogue with those of the audience. Tickets can be purchased now at the box office for \$5.

The show will be playing Feb. 18 to Feb. 21 at 8:00 p.m. and Feb. 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Studio Theatre. In this year of choice and change, it is important to examine the possibilities of the world that is at our fingertips.

## Sweeping the stage in "Clean Room"

By Jake Kreeger  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Echoing the work of Lily Tomlin and her masterpiece *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, "Clean Room" is created, directed, and performed by Dr. Leslie Pasternack. The solo performance runs February 24th through February 26th in the Studio Theatre and is free for students.

"Clean Room" is a commedia dell'arte-based performance piece that explores the lives of two original characters. As writer and performance artist, Pasternack engages in a process of physical improvisation as well as story-telling to discover "a grotesque frailty" in the humanity of these two characters, Brighina and Stupino. She has developed these characters and exposed them to the world through performance, improvisation, and workshops for more than ten years.

Brighina, the daughter of a Vietnam veteran and sister of a boy genius, is "a cheerfully disoriented

social castoff enduring exile in a waiting room and sorting out her life's wins and losses for clues to her confinement." The first half of the performance entitled "Induction," reveals someone who defines herself in response to the men she adores, fears and mourns. Dr. Pasternack finds her work reflecting on a society where not enough compassion is considered.

"Maintenance," the second piece in "Clean Room," unfolds around the character of Stupino, a man who has lived his entire life as a janitor in a mental hospital. Describing him as a richly humble and surprisingly wise character, Dr. Pasternack says that much can be learned from Stupino, who takes pride in his work and "carves out small spaces of compassion and competency" in the midst of constant crises. "Stupino," Dr. Pasternack says, "can be kind and gentle and put himself out there to let people judge him." Even wearing her mask, Dr. Pasternack's bare-



Dr. Leslie Pasternack in mask developing her performance piece, "Clean Room."

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG THEATER DEPARTMENT

SEE CLEAN ROOM  
PAGE 11



# Gossip: Rihanna and Chris Brown, Usher

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The biggest story in celebrity news this week is an unfortunate one. Pop/R&B singer Rihanna is originally from Barbados, and her boyfriend, R&B singer Chris Brown, got into a domestic dispute on Sunday, which left Rihanna with several injuries.

*"Rihanna's injuries consisted of a black eye, swollen lip, and two bruises on her forehead."*

Police responded to a 911 call early Sunday morning about a disturbance, and interviewed the bruised Rihanna about the details of the situation.

Rihanna's injuries consisted of a black eye, swollen lip, and two bruises on her forehead. Brown turned himself in to police later on Sunday, and was

interviewed regarding the felony criminal threat charge against him. He was later release on \$50,000 bail.

Family of Rihanna, who is originally from Barbados, reportedly wanted her to return home and stay out of the spotlight until the intensity of the situation was resolved. Although it is publicly unknown where Rihanna is residing at this point, a friend of the singer told the media that she is in "a safe place."

This incident is especially surprising since Brown has publicly spoken out on his experiences with domestic violence while growing up. He

revealed to Giant magazine in a past interview that his stepfather was abusive to his mother, causing Brown to constantly fear for his and his mother's well-being.

The allegations against Brown are not only having a negative effect on his reputation. The singer has been suspended from his position as a spokesperson for Doublemint gum, and has been dropped by the Got Milk ad campaign as their current celebrity face.

Several celebrities have spoken out about the situation, including rappers Kanye West (who toured with Rihanna last year) and T.I. West stated that he was "completely devastated" by the situation, and that he considers Rihanna to be like a little sister to him.

T.I. revealed that he has spoken to Brown since the incident, and that the singer is "still the same Chris." The rapper added that celebrities are still human, and that they make mistakes.

In more upsetting news, R&B singer Usher's wife, Tameka Raymond, suffered complications resulting from a routine liposuction procedure.

Usher flew out to Brazil, where the procedure had taken place, to be by her side as soon as he heard the news. The singer had to cancel his scheduled performance at a pre-Grammy Awards party over the weekend in light of this emergency. Publicists for the couple have reported that Tameka is now in stable condition.

*"Celebrities are still human."*

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Friday the 13th

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 10:10  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 10:10  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

### Coraline

Fri. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

### Taken

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:15  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:15  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:15

### He's Just Not That Into You

Fri. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sat. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sun. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00

### The Pink Panther 2

Fri. 4:40, 7:30, 9:50  
Sat. 4:40, 7:30, 9:50  
Sun. 4:40, 7:30, 9:50

### Push

Fri. 5:10, 7:50, 10:20  
Sat. 5:10, 7:50, 10:20  
Sun. 5:10, 7:50, 10:20

### Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Fri. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40  
Sat. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40  
Sun. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK (SPECIAL STAFF EDITION)

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT PRODUCTION NIGHT?



"Chilling out, maxing, relaxing all cool."  
- Daniel Wayne, '11  
SPORTS EDITOR



"Having my political views made fun of."  
- Rachel Majkszak, '09  
ASSISTANT OP/ED EDITOR



"Making sure that the printer is working."  
- Ben Levine, '11  
LIFE EDITOR



"Spacing game."  
- Matthew Howard, '11  
MANAGING EDITOR



"My assistant and Daniel Wayne's 'fro."  
- Sara Beitman, '10  
OP/ED EDITOR

COMPILED BY THE WEEKLY STAFF

**CLEAN ROOM**

FROM PAGE 9

boned, all-or-nothing approach to these characters makes it impossible not to find a sense of empathy, compassion, and even genuine love for the real emotion they demonstrate on the stage. Both characters inhabit the same theatrical world, and a connection between the two characters can be found through their endearing compassion.

Dr. Pasternack's passion and training comes in the form of Commedia del'Arte, an Italian tradition emphasizing comedy through the body. Commedia typically weaves stories around the familiar archetypes of masters, servants, and lovers.

Pasternack finds herself identifying with the traditional role of servants, discovering a contemporary empathy for those working and serving in a clearly recognizable class system that continues in so-called democratic societies.

Dr. Pasternack is quick to state that the form of theatre she invents is not limited to Commedia, but is a timeless form of physical theatre. "Being present in the moment," Dr. Pasternack says, "being lively and folding into the life of the audience is

true for not only this kind of theatre, but in all forms of theatre." Pasternack states that the truth she exhibits on stage is one that connects to viewers on a different kind of level, as audiences find themselves completely enveloped in the richness of her performance. She will connect even more so to audiences as her work will be presented in the intimate 60-seat Studio Theatre. Dr. Pasternack's thoughts on being an actor, too, demonstrate a sense of transcendence in her art. "Live theatre is a sort of living organism. If you stop moving, you drown." Indeed, Dr. Pasternack shows no signs of drowning, as she prepares to

take flight once again in her one-woman solo piece, sweeping the stage with her rousing performance.

The Muhlenberg College Solo Flights series will continue on April 14th and 15th as Andrew Brown '09 takes the stage with another original

performance. His performance piece is entitled "Fat Camp" and will take audiences on a journey through the dark, cavernous underbelly of pop culture, memory, atomic bombs, and resocialization.

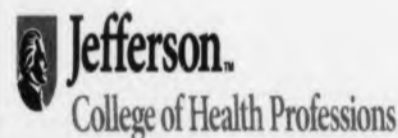
*"Pasternack finds herself identifying with the traditional role of servants, discovering a contemporary empathy for those working and serving in a clearly recognizable class system that continues in so-called democratic societies."*

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# This Week in History

By Adam Bernstein and Ben Levine

LIFE! EDITORS

On **February 12, 1999**, President Bill Clinton was acquitted of impeachment by the United States Senate. Between November 1995 and March 1997, Clinton had an alleged affair with Monica Lewinsky in the Oval Office. After allegations surfaced, Clinton said his now famous statement: "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky." Many remember the scandal for Clinton's expert twisting of words and phrases in his defense before a grand jury and on press conferences. Many in Congress believed that Clinton's false testimony was perjury and therefore an impeachable act. Clinton's legacy was forever tarnished.

On **February 13, 1635**, the Boston Latin School was founded in Boston, Massachusetts, making it the first public school established in the United States. The school was used to educate the sons of the Boston elite, resulting in many prominent alumni. Of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, five of them were educated at the Boston Latin School, including John Adams and John Hancock. Other famous Boston Latin alumni include four Harvard presidents, four Massachusetts governors. There have also been some famous dropouts from Boston Latin, including William Lloyd Garrison and Benjamin Franklin. Harvard College was created a year later, in 1636. It is thought that Harvard was created for Boston Latin's first graduates. The school is still in existence and is the oldest school in America.

On **February 14, 1929**, the Saint Valentine's Day massacre occurred. The deadly massacre was between two powerful criminal gangs in Chicago, Illinois, the South Side Italian gang led by Al Capone and the North Side Irish gang led by Bugs Moran. The slaughter exceeded anything yet seen in the United States at that time. Seven people were fatally shot. In 1931, Capone was convicted of income tax evasion and was imprisoned for 11 years. The crime scene was demolished in 1967 and is now a landscaped parking lot for a nursing home.

On **February 15, 1898**, the USS Maine sank in Havana Harbor. Two hundred and sixty-six men died as a cause of the explosion that rocked the night. At the time, an inquiry by the Navy found that a Spanish mine was the cause of the explosion. Newspapers spread word of the disaster and fueled American demand for a war with Spain. Congress obliged the American public and declared war. After a relatively short war, the Spanish-American War ended with the United States victorious. After signing the Treaty of Paris on December 10, 1898, Spain ceded Cuba, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam to the United States. Recent evidence has shown that a faulty furnace and not the Spanish probably destroyed the Maine.

On **February 16, 1923**, Howard Carter, an English archeologist discovered the tomb of the Egyptian King Tutankhamun, most notably known as King Tut. When he discovered the tomb, it was said he found 150 gold amulets and a death mask weighing 11 kilograms with which the pharaoh was buried. Carter was thought to have used an axe to retrieve the gold charms and the mummy was broken into 18 pieces. Due to the poor archeological knowledge at the time, Carter left the mummy for hours without protection under the sun. After this famous discovery, Carter retired from archeology and became a collector. He died in 1939 from lymphoma at the age of sixty-four.

On **February 17, 1933**, the United States Senate passed the Blaine Act. The Blaine Act led to the 21st Amendment, which repealed the 18th Amendment, which banned the sale of alcohol. The 21st Amendment holds the dubious honor of being the only amendment to be repealed because it was a greatly unpopular act.

On **February 18, 1954**, the Church of Scientology was formed. The Church founder stated that the aims of Scientology were to be, "A civilization without insanity, without criminals and without war, where the able can prosper and honest beings can have rights, and where man is free to rise to greater heights." In 1979, several Scientology members were convicted for illegal activities, including the largest theft of government documents in U.S. history.

# This Week on Campus

Sunday, Feb. 15 - Wednesday, Feb. 18

Darfur: Artwork for Awareness

- 10:00 am - 10:00 pm in the Martin Art Gallery
- Artwork curated by STAND (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur)
- For more information, contact Kathryn Burke at x3467 or email [kburke@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:kburke@muhlenberg.edu)

Tuesday, Feb. 17

President Obama and the Supreme Court

- 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm in Moyer Miller Forum
- Former President of the American Civil Liberties Union Nadine Strossen will speak
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Judy Ridner at x3326 or email [ridner@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:ridner@muhlenberg.edu)

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Contemporary Art and its Temporal

- 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm in Center for the Arts Galleria
- Dr. Ara Osterweil will guest lecture
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Kathryn Burke x3467 or email [kburke@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:kburke@muhlenberg.edu)

Doctor's Without Borders

- 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the CA Recital Hall
- Dr. Jerry Ehrlich will be the guest lecturer
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Jennifer Blęznak at [jb237931@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:jb237931@muhlenberg.edu)

# No letdown for Mules

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

Last week's game between the Muhlenberg Women's Basketball Team and the visiting Bryn Mawr Owls had all the makings of a classic "trap" game. The Mules were undefeated in the Centennial Conference, only a game away from clinching the regular season championship; Bryn Mawr was in last place and had yet to win a Conference contest. The Mules were coming off a huge win against nationally ranked DeSales, and had a long weekend break awaiting them after the game against the Owls. With temperatures far below freezing, an empty gym on a Thursday night, and a broken PA system at the beginning of the game, this had all the makings of a stereotypical letdown game for the Mules - until the game actually began.

Muhlenberg came out with all cylinders firing, running the Owls out of the game before the visitors realized what had happened. Four minutes into the game, the Mules had already opened up a 15-0 lead. It was not until the 12:29 mark, that the Owls scored their first points with two free-throws. It was not until the 12:00 mark, that Bryn Mawr finally made a field goal. By

that point the score was 22-4, and the Mules lesser-used players were already contributing on the court.

When asked how they were able to keep focus on what many would deem a dangerous game, sophomore Kelly McKeon credited Coach Ron Rohn for constantly reminding the team to focus, and then focus, and then focus some more. McKeon was proud of her teams' effort that night, saying "Considering our competition, I think we played great. It was really nice for everyone to contribute like that." All 12 players in uniform got the chance to play, with every healthy player getting at least 10 minutes of playing time. Nine different Mules scored in the game, led by senior Lauren Boyle with 18 and freshman Alexandra Chili with 15.

The final 72-47 victory, clinched the regular season Centennial championship, and was good enough to enter the Mules into the Conference record books. With their 14-0 start against Conference foes, the Mules have tied the record for the best start in Conference history. The Mules also earned the right to host the Conference championship, where you can be sure there will again be no possibility for a Mule letdown.



Left: Senior captain Lauren Boyle drives to the hoop; Middle: Junior Kaitlyn O'Malley lets it rain on the Owls; Right: Freshman Alexandra Chili sinks another three-pointer.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

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# NHL

## power rankings

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

### 1. Boston Bruins (39-8-7, 85 points)

Dominating the Flyers, losing in overtime, and a couple more wins and overtime losses, the B's have gotten points in nine of their last ten games. They are the President's Trophy leader by six points over the Sharks, and are dominating their conference. The closest competitor is Washington, 13 points behind. The Bruins are the best team in the NHL.

### 2. San Jose Sharks (36-7-7, 79 points)

The Sharks are currently on a three-game losing streak, but are still playing dominantly. They are leading the Wings by four points, and are still 6-2-2 in their last ten games.

### 3. Detroit Red Wings (35-11-7, 77 points)

Winners of their last three games, the Wings are extending their lead in the Central Division to nine points over the Blackhawks. Still my choice to win the Stanley Cup, the Red Wings are playing just as good as they always do.

### 4. Washington Capitals (34-16-4, 72 points)

The Capitals are still one of the best teams in the league, riding Alexander Ovechkin's once again dominant season to a lead over the rest of the Southeast division teams. They are 13 points ahead of their only other competitor in the playoffs, the Hurricanes. Ovie and the Caps are riding high. Look for them to continue, while making a move at the upcoming trade deadline.

### 5. New Jersey Devils (33-17-3, 69 points)

Their huge winning streak came to an end, though they are still 8-2 in their last ten games. First in the Atlantic by just six points, the Devils are still playing like one of the best teams in the league. Beware: Brodeur returns soon.

### 6. Philadelphia Flyers (28-15-9, 65 points)

Still extremely inconsistent, the Flyers seem to be lacking a starting goaltender. 5-5 in their last ten games is not what Paul Holmgren and the coaching staff were looking for. They need some magic from either Martin Biron or Antero Niittymaki to challenge Jersey for first place.

### 7. Montreal Canadiens (29-18-6, 64 points)

The Canadiens are riding the momentum of the All-Star festivities to... a 3-7 record in their last ten games. The Habs are falling quickly, and if they hope to catch first place Boston, they really need to turn things around.

### 8. Chicago Blackhawks (29-14-8, 66 points)

Chicago is playing very well considering they are playing an extremely tough schedule in the competitive Western Conference. 5-4-1 in their last ten, the Hawks are still playing consistently well.

### 9. Calgary Flames (30-18-4, 64 points)

Calgary has fallen very quickly recently, but are still leading the Northwest because of the downfall of the other division teams. 4-6 in their last ten, they still are in third place in the West, but are not playing anything close to their best hockey.

### 10. New York Rangers (29-19-5, 63 points)

A bit more consistent than they were, New York is still not playing to their full potential. 5-4-1 in their last ten games and currently on a four game losing streak, the Rangers have a lot to strive for.

### 11. Buffalo Sabres (28-20-6, 62 points)

Buffalo is sitting pretty in seventh place, better than most expected out of them. 6-3-1 in their last ten, they currently have the third best L10 record in the Eastern Conference.

### 12. Columbus Blue Jackets (25-23-5, 55 points)

The Blue Jackets' record does not show the half of it. They are a great team that is struggling due to their competitive division and conference. If they were in the East, they would safely in the playoffs. However, now they are struggling in a conference in which the bottom ten teams are separated by just seven points.

13. Anaheim Ducks (27-24-5, 59 points) and 14. Dallas Stars (25-19-7, 57 points)

The Ducks and Stars are playing fairly well, battling back and forth for a spot in the playoffs. Now that both teams are too far back from the Sharks to challenge for first, the next step is simply making the playoffs.

### 15. Edmonton Oilers (26-23-3, 55 points)

Tied for eighth place in the West, the Oilers are at .500 in their last ten

games, and playing well enough to legitimately be in the playoffs.

### 16. Carolina Hurricanes (27-22-5, 59 points)

The Hurricanes are trying to avenge the last few years in which they have failed to even make the playoffs after winning the Stanley Cup in 2006. They are in the playoffs by just one point.

### 17. Minnesota Wild (26-22-3, 55 points)

Tied with two other teams for eighth place in the West, the Wild are the best of those three teams as of recent. Going 6-4 in their last ten games, the Wild are not doing as well as they had hoped, but simply making the playoffs will be satisfactory.

### 18. Vancouver Canucks (24-20-8, 56 points)

The Canucks have simply crashed as of recent. 2-5-3 in their last ten games, they are playing absolutely horribly, and Mats Sundin has lost more games than he has won.

### 19. Florida Panthers (25-19-8, 58 points)

Ninth place in the East is better than anyone expected, but they need to find a way to move Jay Bouwmeester. They have said that they are looking for a top line defenseman, a young forward, and a draft pick for their star defenseman, and they could absolutely get one at the deadline. A team that may seem like sellers may turn out to be buyers in late February.

### 20. Pittsburgh Penguins (26-25-5, 57 points)

Crosby and Malkin are simply playing extremely well. The rest of the team? Not so much...

### 21. Los Angeles Kings (23-21-7, 53 points)

The Kings defeated Washington in a very well played game, and continued their great defense, going 6-3-1 in their last ten games. They are just two points out of the playoffs; don't be surprised if they are still in this spot come April.

### 22. Colorado Avalanche (25-27-1, 51 points)

Colorado is in second to last place in the West, playing terribly. 3-7 in their last ten games, they have proved nothing.

### 23. Phoenix Coyotes (24-25-5, 53 points)

The Coyotes have not won a single game since I wrote my last power rankings article. They are on a six-game losing streak, and are falling quicker than A-Rod's legitimacy.

### 24. Nashville Predators (25-24-3, 53 points)

Two points out of a playoff berth and on a four game winning streak, the Preds are back where Barry Trotz always has them; on the brink of making the playoffs when no one expects them to.

### 25. St. Louis Blues (22-24-6, 50 points)

The Blues are point producers in nine of their last ten games, and are paying much better than anyone expected. Unfortunately, they are still in last place in the Western Conference.

### 26. Toronto Maple Leafs (20-24-9, 49 points)

The Leafs are attempting to climb the standings, but it is not working the way they had hoped. They are 4-3-3 in their last ten games, and sitting in eleventh place.

### 27. Tampa Bay Lightning (18-24-11, 47 points)

5-4-1 in their last ten games is better than the majority of their season. However, they are still struggling to play consistently against other teams.

### 28. Ottawa Senators (18-25-8, 44 points)

The Sens are playing just as poorly as they have been all season. After firing their coach and promoting their AHL coach, they are looking like the Islanders of 2009.

### 29. Atlanta Thrashers (18-31-5, 41 points)

Still haven't improved at all...

### 30. New York Islanders (16-31-5, 37 points)

They had a four-game winning streak that got cut earlier this week, but are now on one of their archetypal losing streaks.

Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report and the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers' section; a writer for Prohockeynews.com and Insidehockey.com, he is also the co-host of NHL 2Day, a weekly radio show on Youcastr.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com.

# The race for the kup heats up



## Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

If there is one thing we have learned in the past week of Intramural basketball, it's that the A league is far more competitive than most had previously believed. The once-thought unbeatable Team Wish has become shockingly mortal over its past few games. After their close win over 2nd place Kon Tiki last week, Team Wish beat the ManBearPigs by single-digits, and on Monday night, pulled out a hard earned win over an improving Team Seidt. Team Seidt, although they lost both their games, proved they can contend with anyone, losing in the tough contest to Team Wish and losing against Kon Tiki, in what turned out to be the game of the week.

Kon Tiki entered the week in second place with only one loss while Team Seidt was stuck in the basement of the standings. But Team Seidt stayed with the favored Tiki's until the very

end, until senior Greg Leischner crushed Team Seidt's hopes of an upset. With only seconds remaining, Leischner caught the ball on the wing and released a floater as the final buzzer sounded, giving Kon Tiki the win. Senior Joey Pisano, arguably the league's best scorekeeper, said of Leischner after the shot, "I see him in a totally new light now. I have a newfound respect for that man." Whether it's a new light or an old light, anyone reading the standings can see that Kon Tiki remains only one loss behind Team Wish.

The B league appears to be turning into more of a one horse race than was expected. The SeaTurtles have emerged as the league's clear favorites. Led by the dynamic duo of Seths, seniors Seth Kaye and Seth Glasser, the SeaTurtles are undefeated and appearing unstoppable. Following

the SeaTurtles in this week's rankings are the SoFrosh and SoClean squad, fresh off a huge win over the Tazorbacks, and the Boats N Stoges team in third place. Keep an eye on two up-and-coming teams, on Team Hastings and Team Fritz, both of which have been playing well lately.

The highlight of this week took place neither in the A nor B league, but rather in the Women's game. With only 9 players, freshman Mark "Coatsville" Mounayar stepped in as the final player. In what Pisano described as a "legendary moment," freshman Renee Norton scolded Mounayar for his poor shot selection. It was clear to all that Norton got the best of battle that night.

In other news, Muhlenberg College TeleVision recently filmed a short documentary on the world of Intramurals, which is scheduled to air this coming Monday.

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## Sports Schedule

### Wrestling

Thur., Feb. 12 vs. Messiah, 7:30

### Track and Field

Fri., Feb. 13, Laffayette/Ryder  
(NYC Armory)

### Men's Basketball

Sat., Feb. 14 at Johns Hopkins,  
3:00

Wed., Feb 18 vs. Dickinson, 7:00

### Women's Basketball

Sat., Feb. 14 at Johns Hopkins,  
1:00

Wed., Feb 18 at Dickinson, 7:30



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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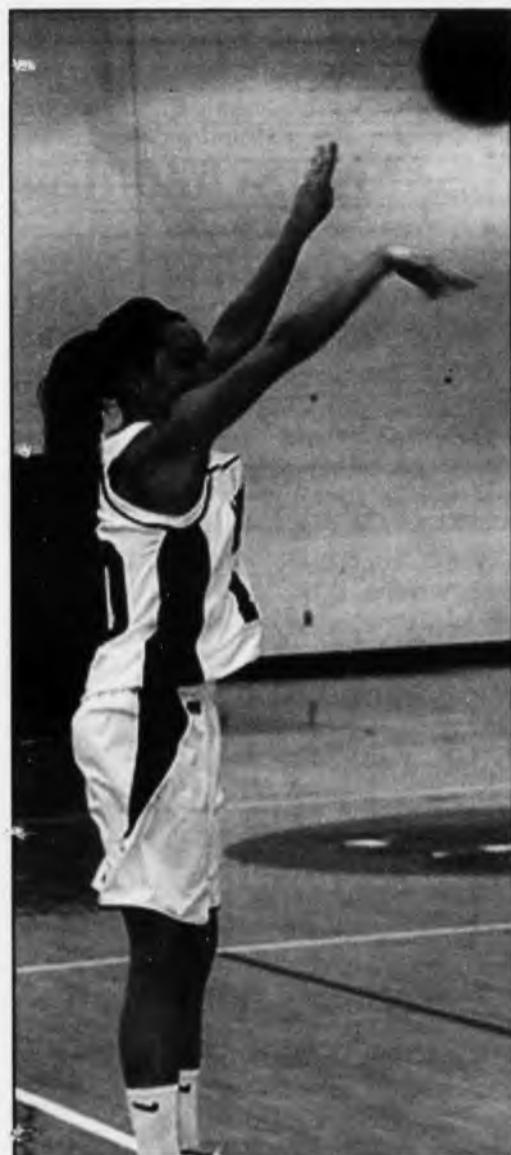
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## The Mules' maestro

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

Muhlenberg Women's Basketball Team, she is named Kelly McKeon.

McKeon, a sophomore, is the starting point guard and catalyst of the Centennial Conference regular-season champion and 20th ranked team in the country. In her second year as a starter, McKeon is simply continuing a lifelong pattern of success on the court. In high school, at Holy Cross in Watertown, CT, McKeon finished her junior season as state runner-up, and finished her senior season with an undefeated state championship. Recruited by Coach Ron Rohn, McKeon recalls exactly what brought her to Muhlenberg. "I just fell in love with the team on my visit here, and the rest is history," said McKeon. Well for now, history is exactly what she has been constantly rewriting. Entering this week, McKeon has been producing what can only be described as Oscar Robertson-esque statistics. She enters the week ranked 2nd in the Centennial in assists, 1st by a mile in assist-to-



Sophomore Kelly McKeon drains threes from all over the court.

turnover ratio, and the most impressive of all, 5th in rebounds. Usually when we think of rebounding, what comes to mind are Dennis Rodman's tattoos, Ben Wallace's afro, Jeff "Big Daddy" Stewart, or even current Muhlenberg junior Pete Barnes. But McKeon, generously listed at 5'6", is drastically changing the face of Muhlenberg rebounding.

The Mules enter the week as the 3rd best rebounding team in the Conference. McKeon, averaging 7.8 rebounds per game, leads the team. When asked about her rebounding success, McKeon was quick to deflect the credit elsewhere, stating, "I give the post players all the credit. I wouldn't get so many if our post players weren't so good at boxing out." Well it takes more than just solid box outs for a point guard to lead a team in rebounds, and for McKeon it's her toughness and court sense that deserve more credit than she's willing to give herself.

Never fearful to fight inside with the larger players, McKeon seems to never back down from an opposing player twice her size. Against DeSales last week, McKeon found herself in a head-on collision with the DeSales center. When she was knocked to the ground

McKeon would not even let Coach Rohn come out and check on her, for she did not want to be forced out of the game. The Mules beat nationally ranked DeSales that night, McKeon played the entire game, and she held a preseason All-American on DeSales to about half her season scoring average. When asked if that collision would make her second-guess skirmishing with opposing post players, she quickly responded, "No definitely not." That's the type of toughness McKeon brings to the court every night.

But there's a mental aspect to McKeon's success as well, a type of court smarts associated with all the games' best point guards. About the court awareness, McKeon stated, "It just comes naturally. It's all about timing." That natural timing has McKeon poised to be the first Mule guard, let alone point guard, to lead the team in rebounding in at least 10 years, possibly longer. If she can maintain her current rebounding pace for the next few seasons, she could end up as one of the premier rebounders to ever wear the Mule jersey.

Not only an impressive rebounder, McKeon fulfills all the roles anyone could ask of its point guard. A team leader and certainly a teamplayer, McKeon stated her role on the team is simply "to lead the team in any way possible." So far this season she has been the coordinator of the Conference's best offensive team, averaging 70.6 points per game. As a team, Muhlenberg leads the Conference in assists per game, and McKeon easily leads the Mules with 4.67 per game. And always a point guard's most important statistic, McKeon's 2.23 assist-to-turnover ratio not only leads the team and Conference, but it makes her the only Centennial Conference player, male or female, whose ratio is over 2.

McKeon's favorite stat, the one she continuously wanted to discuss, was the teams' record-breaking 14-0 Conference start. With four Conference games left, the Mules have already clinched the regular season championship and have won the right to host the postseason tournament. "One down so far," said McKeon, thinking towards both the Conference tournament and the NCAA tournament that loom ahead. She also said that "As long as the team continues to improve," the Mules have the potential and tools for as promising a post-season run as any team in school history.

The Mules have been an unstoppable machine so far this season in the Centennial Conference, and McKeon has been the gas that runs the engine. Although she would never admit it, anyone who watches her team quickly realizes she is without question the general of the floor and the maestro of the group.



McKeon is making her presence known in the paint.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 16

Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2009

# Alex Lotorto wins controversial election

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Thursday, February 12, Student Government held an unusually long meeting, lasting over three hours during which time three major issues were examined. The first issue concerned Student Government's direct involvement with EnAct's *Just Tap It* program.

The second issue regarded MCTV's proposal to film Student Government meetings, specifically legal issues pertaining to that. The third and most passionate debate raged over Alex Lotorto's campaign to fill the vacant spot on Student Government left by Ian Costello.

When Ian Costello resigned from his position as representative for the class of 2009, Student Government decided to hold an in-house election this past week. On Tuesday, February 10, Senior Class President Matthew Fash sent out an email to all seniors alerting them of the vacant spot to be filled on Thurs, Feb. 12, and that all interested should declare their intention of running and attend Thursday's meeting. The only candidate to

attend the meeting with the intention of filling the spot was Alex, who is known for being an outspoken and often controversial figure on campus.

Lotorto, a former member of Student Government who had to resign due to scheduling conflicts, gave a brief speech as to why he should be reelected. He mainly focused on his attempt to have a Students Bill of Rights passed by Student Government on behalf of his club, Students for a Democratic Society.

He also emphasized that, while he hasn't been a voting member of Student Government recently, he has shown up for almost every meeting. After his speech he left the conference room, as per Student Government guidelines, to allow for discussion.

The first person to air his opinion was Executive Secretary Matthew Pearson '10. Pearson motioned to postpone the election until

the following week to allow more seniors to respond to the email and run for the vacant spot. "Two days time is not enough. We only have one candidate here, who has been here before and has had a tumultuous history. I'm sorry but I'm looking for another candidate."

Fash responded by pointing out that in the past, vacant seats had been sought by only a single candidate and were voted on without any issues. Joel Reitz '11 supported the postponement of the election as he agreed with Pearson that two days was not enough time to have a fair election.

Student Body Treasurer Barrie Schessler '10 objected to Lotorto's bid to fill the vacant seat on the grounds the he is "difficult to deal with personally." "The only reason I am pro [postponing the election], and it's from [Finance] Committee events, it's to deal with him personally."

Schessler then added,

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*"The third and most passionate debate raged over Alex Lotorto's campaign to fill the vacant spot on Student Government left by Ian Costello."*

## Mural for Jefferson Elementary

By Rachel Majkszak  
OP/ED EDITOR

The College has a strong partnership with Jefferson Elementary School in Allentown. The Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement and the club S.H.A.R.E. (Students Have A Real Effect) run many programs with Jefferson every year. They include: Jefferson Arts and Crafts, where Muhlenberg students do crafts with second graders after school, and Jefferson Visits where students with the highest grades in each class get to come to Muhlenberg for a day. In addition, the College runs Jefferson Pen Pals where a Muhlenberg student and a Jefferson student are paired as they write letters to each other during the year. Muhlenberg also hosts Jefferson Field Day every May when the entire elementary

school comes to Muhlenberg for a day of fun.

Students from S.H.A.R.E. are in the process of painting a mural at Jefferson Elementary to represent the strong relationship. Co-president of S.H.A.R.E., Sara Beitman designed the mural which features the Muhlenberg Mule and the Jefferson Stallion holding hooves, a Muhlenberg student reading a book to Jefferson students, and the Haas admissions building and the Jefferson school building. Muhlenberg and Jefferson students have also decorated tiles for the base of the mural that stand for diversity, friendship, love, change, and hope. Help is still needed to finish the mural; it is about half done. Come on Fri. at 2:30 p.m. in Parent's Plaza to be a part of this great project. For more information, contact Sara Beitman.



S.H.A.R.E. students hard at work painting the mural at Jefferson Elementary School.

PHOTO BY SARA BEITMAN



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## The Weekly endorses Jon Falk

We, the Weekly, have decided to endorse Jonathan Falk as the next Student Body President. After reading and considering both candidates' platforms, we are sure that either will do a wonderful job as President, but we feel that Jon has the passion needed for the position. The very nature of his campaign, emphasizing vision and leadership, proves that he truly wants this job. His platform is well thought-out and focuses on bettering student life on campus, making everyone's college experience well-rounded and more enjoyable.

We were particularly intrigued by his idea to increase athletic enthusiasm on campus as well as give more recognition to Greek life. We love the idea of bringing all areas of the campus closer together and we feel that our environment can really benefit from his leadership. By supporting both athletics and Greeks, we open doors to more opportunities and ideas facilitated around campus, which in turn benefits Falk and Student Government. Who knows what could come of all the different minds once they are open to each other?

We are part of a small college, but it is important to support our fellow students not only in student presidential campaigns, but in all other aspects as well. Something as simple as tailgating before a sporting event would bring the student body together. And, while we realize our College is small in size, our teams can compete with the best, and deserve all the support we can give them.

We also like Falk's commitment to student safety; he wants to implement more blue lights on campus, which is a practical and appreciated goal. In fact, it seems that overall his goals are attainable, and he balances practical objectives such as more blue lights and hotspots with more abstract goals, such as improving communications between Student Government and the student body.

Jon's enthusiasm for the job and his dedication to Student Government make him the best candidate for the job. But be sure to familiarize yourselves with each candidate's platform before voting. Voting will be this Mon., Feb. 23 from 8:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. in Seegers Union.

# Drill, baby, drill!

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

*Democrats have been adamant in supporting an all encompassing energy plan and at the same time have been stubbornly opposed to allowing domestic drilling.*

Most Americans recognized the need for some sort of action and change in order to prevent a crippling energy crisis. The public was growing more frustrated as a result of skyrocketing gas prices and the possibility that oil was becoming scarce. In response to these concerns, politicians rightfully added their ideas for preventing an energy problem to their campaign platforms.

Both Republicans and Democrats claimed to hold the magical cure. They passionately called for an "all of the above solution," where all of the smaller, individual problem solving techniques would be collected into one perfect solution. So, shouldn't this all-of-the-above solution include funding research for hybrid and hydrogen fueled cars, investing in solar and wind energy, building safe nuclear power plants, and increasing domestic supply of energy resources (oil and coal)? The meaning of "all of the above" might seem obvious, but not for Congressional Democrats. They like to use the rhetoric of finding many solutions to help

Energy: it's what drives America. The United States is a country that is heavily reliant on energy to run schools, hospitals, offices, transportation, and homes. It is likely that the energy debate is fresh in our minds considering the fact that an election cycle has just past. The rhetoric from politicians on both sides of the aisle was unrelenting.

Republicans and Democrats often focused their debates and campaign speeches on their approaches to lower the cost of gas, make heating oil more available, decrease American dependency on foreign oil, and fund research on alternative sources of energy. Candidates seemed as though they were hooked on the phrase "all of the above solution." Using this phrase made it appear as though they had the perfect answer to our problems, but that was far from the truth.

*Americans and our government need to understand that domestic oil drilling is an integral part of the overall energy solution.*

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PAGE 3

## Jon Falk: a candidate with a vision

By Jon Falk  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

When a candidate asks me to give him or her my vote, they're asking for more than that; they are asking for my trust. It's a powerful thing to give your trust to someone; but it's even more powerful to have it given to you. Which is why I always ask candidates for three things: their experience, their goals, and how they're going to accomplish those goals. So why should I, as a humble candidate asking for your vote and your trust, have any less demanded of me?

If there's one thing I've learned as a leader on campus, it's that experience is more than just what activities you are involved in. True experience is more than just going to meetings and learning how to plan events. It's about making working relationships with members of the administration. It's about listening to those you are responsible for and making sure their needs are being met. Over my three years on this campus I have managed to make an impact on several organizations. I have been a vocal and effective Class Representative on Student Government since my freshman year. Through my dedication, I have earned the title of President of Hillel and I am both the founder and President of Mules

United for Israel. As both a Tour Guide mentor and a Student Advisor, I have fostered strong connections with the newest additions to our campus. It is only with this combination of experience and strong relationships that a Student Body President can be as effective as he needs to be.

Every good candidate can tell you his or her goals, but only a great candidate can give you a vision. Mine has never been a great secret: my vision is of a Student Body President whose sole desire is to enhance the experience of Muhlenberg students. There are many great ideas and events that have been left on the wayside of the college experience and whose absence has been noticed.

As Student Body President I would work to reinstate November Chill. This lost tradition of students gathering in the comfort of the Red Door to share their good spirits with their friends is just the sort of event that the College desperately needs. While getting a bar for a night in the Red Door isn't feasible at the moment, it is a step in the right direction. With my help this is a dream that may one day be a reality.

We've made important strides in keeping the Muhlenberg Campus up to par with our fellow

Lehigh Valley colleges, but there is still much work to be done. We need to step up the efforts to see a completely wireless campus come to fruition. We need to recognize the work of our Greek brothers and sisters, and see more enthusiasm for our athletic teams. Where is the non-Greek support during Greek Week? Where is that famous "Rah-Rah" spirit in the bleachers that seems commonplace at other colleges and almost non-existent here at Muhlenberg? Why don't more Muhlenberg students take advantage of the plays, art exhibits, and other cultural opportunities the school has to offer? Why are we so quick to deny our presence to these thriving and impressive aspects of the Muhlenberg Campus?

Together, we can share in this vision. Together, we can make a change for the better. Together, we can make the difference that is needed to make Muhlenberg College the experience we all want it to be. I have waited three years for the opportunity to make this change. You only need to wait three days to help me do it.

So, make your voice heard and vote Jonathan Falk as your President on February 23, 2009 in the Seegers Union. It only takes 30 seconds to vote, and one Student Body President to see their vision become a reality.



# Presidential Rankings



Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

Everybody loves the simplicity of lists and rankings. Which school is ranked the best college in America? What teams are listed as the top 25 in college basketball? What is listed as the most dangerous city in America?

Recently, C-Span asked a group of 65 presidential historians and "professional observers of the presiden-

cy," to rank our presidents from 1-42. Obviously, people's opinions are going to be influenced by their political persuasion and other factors but regardless of who publishes presidential rankings, there is usually a high degree of consistency in the top and bottom ten.

The rankings published by C-Span had Abraham Lincoln at number one and George Washington at number two. You would be hard-pressed to find any presidential rankings that didn't have these two ranked in the top two spots. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was ranked number three, which could probably inspire some debate

*Franklin Delano Roosevelt was ranked number three, which could probably inspire some debate from conservatives.*

Although I don't see how you can argue the guy who guided us through the Great Depression and World War II too far down the list.

Theodore Roosevelt was at number four followed by Harry Truman and John F. Kennedy. Personally, I think Kennedy may be a little high consid-

ering his short time in office. Truman is consistently a high pick from both Republicans and Democrats. Rounding out the top

*George H.W. Bush came in at number eighteen because of a high ranking in international relations and crisis leadership.*

ten is Thomas Jefferson, Dwight Eisenhower, Woodrow Wilson, and Ronald Reagan. Similar to FDR, Reagan's ranking often varies heavily depending on a person's political persuasion, ranging from as high as number 3 to the mid 20's.

Bill Clinton was ranked number 15 thanks to high rankings in economic management (number 3 overall) and his ability to pursue equal justice for all (number 4 overall). George H.W. Bush came in at number 18 because of a high ranking in international relations and crisis leadership. The only other living President, Jimmy Carter, was ranked number 25 because of low rankings in public persuasion and crisis leadership, both of which he came in at number 35.

George W. Bush was ranked 36th of 42 Presidents, 9 spots behind Richard Nixon and 3 spots behind Herbert Hoover. Bush was ranked 41st in international relations, 40th in economic management, 37th in administrative skills, and 36th in public persuasion and relations with Congress. Bush did beat out William Henry Harrison in international relations, although Harrison was only in office for 32 days. He also beat out Herbert Hoover and James Buchanan in economic management, although Hoover led us directly into the Great Depression and Buchanan led us directly into the Civil War.

*I think most of us would be satisfied if Barack Obama could find his way to at least the top half of a list like this.*

The people below Bush who rounded out the bottom of list were Millard Fillmore, Warren G. Harding, Harrison, Franklin Pierce, Andrew Johnson and the previously mentioned Buchanan who came in last place. I think most of us would be satisfied if Barack Obama could find his way to at least the top half of a list like this in the future instead of battling it out in the basement with people like Harrison and Buchanan.

## DRILL

FROM PAGE 2

Americans with energy costs, but in reality they support a "some of the above" solution. Democrats have been adamant in supporting an all-encompassing energy plan and at the same time have been stubbornly opposed to allowing domestic drilling. They are not really considering all of the solutions. Americans and our government need to understand that domestic oil drilling is an integral part of the overall energy solution.

Increasing our domestic supply of oil will help to keep gas prices low. A readily available storage of oil will allow America to bypass foreign oil suppliers and lessen its reliance on those suppliers, who are often state sponsors of terrorism. There is a large supply of oil just sitting in America's Outer Continental Shelf. America needs to truly become energy independent.

Supporters of domestic oil production are not opposed to finding alternative sources of energy. In fact, many proponents of drilling, like Allentown's Representative Charlie Dent (R), have shown support for hydrogen fueled cars and solar and wind energy. They are merely supporting oil production as one of the many components of the whole solution.

There may be hope in this complicated energy debate. Several days ago, the Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, Nick Rahall, showed skepticism over the reinstatement of the offshore drilling ban. The federal ban on drilling expired a few months ago and the Democrat-controlled Congress did not renew it. This could be a sign that members of both parties are willing to look at all energy solutions.

We need our representatives to take the first steps in promoting American energy independence. The heart of the solution lies with practical, proven solutions. Our Congress has to stop its petty political grandstanding and work for us. There have been doomsday reports foreshadowing oil droughts and a powerless America. Now is the time to act and have an open mind to foster workable solutions.

*A readily available storage of oil will allow America to bypass foreign suppliers and lessen its reliance on those state sponsors of terrorism.*

## THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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# EnAct: going too far

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Clubs provide an important function at Muhlenberg and many other colleges. They're a place where people with similar beliefs can mingle, get to know each other, and plan events that other students can be a part of.

However, I feel that one group on campus is overstepping their boundaries as a club and becoming more of an organization that imposes their beliefs on others who aren't members.

The Environmental Action Team (EnAct) has seemingly dictated policies on campus that serve as an inconvenience to most of the student body, and I think that they should stop imposing their views on the majority of people.

With the unfortunate backing of Student Government - which hasn't done much to improve my life here, I might add - EnACT has gained extraordinary say in imposing their agenda on us.

Two things that come to mind are their constant and loud attempts to stop the selling of bottled water on campus and the infamous "Trayless Tuesdays."

The first one is something I don't have that much of a problem with, but it has less to do with an environmental stance and more with common sense. It's a case of buying the cow when the milk is free: tap water and water fountains are plentiful across campus and aren't different at all from bottled water. Nevertheless, I know of many people -

mostly athletes - who depend on the bottled stuff in their daily lives. I'd prefer that they just carry around a refillable bottle for their hydration needs, but that's not my duty as a student.

The more obvious and annoying thing that they have done are their now-permanent Trayless Tuesdays in the Garden Room. Every time I go there for lunch and dinner on a Tuesday, I hear everyone complain about it, and I can't say that I blame them.

No trays make for more room to eat at a table, to be sure, but the sheer inconvenience of it all cannot be overlooked. It's very annoying to get a plate, fill it with food, put it on the table that you're sitting at, and repeat the process until you have all that you want to eat and drink. I try to get no more than two plates per meal, but there are others who need or want more, and trays are easier to carry than five plates and three glasses.

My point is that EnAct's policies and activities should be voluntary; much like participation in other clubs is optional. Imagine if the College Democrats or College Republicans forced everyone to watch a movie or participate in an activity that other students don't agree with, or if every student was forced to join an academic club according to his or her major. I would imagine that the campus would be a less pleasant place to live. While I may agree with some of what they're trying to do, it's not EnAct's job to force everyone to conform.

# Genna Goldner

By Genna Goldner  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

As president, I will work to create a more efficient, transparent, and accountable Student Government. It is time for meaningful student representation and a Student Government that works for you.

Our current Student Government has been inefficient at best and unproductive at worst, hampered by a lack of effective leadership. In the last year, the most important progress was instituting a change in the organization's name. Meetings accomplish half of what they could, and that planning that does occur takes months to reach fruition. I want to lead a government where the majority of resolutions that are brought to meetings deal with the students and their needs, and not with internal bylaw changes that only affect the Student Government.

Communication is key and I will work with our communications committee to heavily publicize meetings, advertising top-line agenda items that students need to know about. Highlights of the meeting will be communicated with the same level of energy. Many committees form our Student Government and they need to address more activities that are relevant to us as students. Our many committees will conduct weekly surveys of students to gauge their needs and how to better address problems and concerns. I will help Student Government facilitate open forums for students to address and debate their opinions on school issues such as the Just-Tap-It campaign. Finally, I will see to it that Student Government is held accountable for both its action and inaction before the student body.

Our student body has extraordinary influence on this campus - from occupying seats on the Board of Trustees to the Seegers Union Advisory Board, to academic planning committees. These connections must be fully utilized with fluid communication between student representatives that serve on these boards and the greater student body. As president, I will assure that we make the most of these influential roles to enhance the educational and social lives of our class.

The office of Student Body President has done a poor job of reaching out to the students of Muhlenberg. As president, I would bridge the gap and create a more efficient and productive government.

I, Genna Goldner, want to be your president.

**Write  
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THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY



# History club brings the past alive

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

Each Monday, ten to fourteen history-minded students meet in the Hillcrest House to learn, plan historical events and watch historically-accurate films. This tight knit group of friends discuss historical events and people ranging from ancient Egypt to Ghengis Khan to World War I to Watergate. This past week, The Weekly sat in on one of their meetings and discovered that, while small in membership, the History Club is one of the most dedicated student groups on campus.

President of the History Club, Evan McLaughlin '10 states that the goal of the history club is "to share the individual interests of our members with each other and raise awareness history's significance at the College and the world at large." Former President of the club, Matthew Fash '09 enjoys the club because he says "It's a fun group of people who discuss various topics that interest us."

Club Historian, sophomore Todd Nesson told the Weekly about a "renaissance" that the History Club recently went through. "History Club used to have only six members and all they

would do was play Trivial Pursuit. Their activities had nothing to do with the club's goals. Then last semester, Matt and Evan were joined by sophomores Mollie Leiblich and Caroline Ambul and went around recruiting members for the club. As a result, and through word-of-mouth, the meetings constantly have over a dozen members and the only board games they play are historically themed one provided by Director of Student Leadership and Greek Affairs, Chris Jachimowitz.

Club Vice-President, Jamey Coury '11 sat down with the Weekly to discuss his unique contribution to the club. Coury's hobby is collecting war memorabilia. He says he has artifacts from wars as far back as the Revolutionary War. His collection includes: bullets, bayonets, helmets, eighteen firearms and thirty-seven uniforms. He admits that it is an expensive hobby but says it's more than worthwhile. Sometimes, he says, he will find veterans who will give him their memorabilia for free. He says that when that happens, it's especially meaningful since each artifact has a history. "Everything you get has some story. You may not know the story but some guy carried this

and it was part of his life."

Coury also told of his monthly reenactments of wars. He and Ian Costello '09, take part in large, organized battlefields. For three days, they eat, sleep and interact just as the soldiers would during that war.

Part of their newfound club goals are to honor the College's history. The History Club is doing that by attempting to dedicate a plaque in honor of fallen sailors of the USS Muhlenberg. The Muhlenberg was a Liberty ship during World War II and was torpedoed January 24th, 1944 in the Mediterranean Sea. Seven sailors lost their lives that day. McLaughlin says of the importance of the plaque, "It is a terrific way to honor Muhlenberg's naval legacy."

Fash wants the plaque to be in place by the end of the semester. Unfortunately, the club must raise enough money for the memorial. Next week they will be dormstorming to attempt to raise funds. McLaughlin wants readers to know that if they'd like to contribute, they should contact either him, at em235201@muhlenberg.edu, or Fash at mf234019@muhlenberg.edu.

## ELECTION | FROM PAGE 1

"I think he often represents himself and not his constituency and that makes me nervous as a fellow representative."

Following Schessler's objection, Fash reiterated his point that in the past, vacant seats have had only one candidate running and elections were not delayed.

Representative Jason LaMarca '09 vehemently opposed the motion to postpone the election citing a bias against Lotorto among Student Government members. "I think this is absolutely absurd. The only reason this

is happening is because a lot of people in this room don't like Alex personally... This flies in the face of everything we've done, precedent-wise, since I've set foot in this room."

Pearson then conceded that, to some extent, LaMarca's comments were true, but they did not apply to his objection. "In some cases it may be true that it's because Alex is the candidate. I'm sick of it being just one candidate. Why can't we try to get more? If we wait one more week, I don't see the problem. If he's the only candidate next week, fine, take him."

2010 Class Representative

Jonathan Falk opposed the postponement of the election saying, "We are Student Government. We are a democracy. If only one person wants to run, only one person has to run... We cannot disenfranchise him because of his positions." Falk then put aside any biases he may or may not have had and consulted *Robert's Rules of Order*, Student

Government's manual of procedure.

Falk read aloud, verbatim, the rules regarding this particular election. In short, *Robert's Rules* stated that when there is a single candidate running for a vacant spot, Student Government must

election during that meeting and could not postpone it. In addition, it stated that voting members could "write-in" a different candidate instead of voting for Lotorto.

After Falk consulted *Robert's Rules*, the motion to postpone the election was almost unanimously rejected and a paper ballot was taken on the election of Lotorto. Lotorto was reelected by an undisclosed margin and is now, once again, a representative of the class of 2009.

The Student Body Presidential Election are going to be held, Monday, February 23 in Seegers.

**Spring Break is Just Around the Corner...  
But first, Come celebrate in the Garden Room**

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# Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy/ Windy	Few Snow Showers	Few Snow Showers
High: 35 Low: 23	High: 38 Low: 26	High: 32 Low: 20

		3		7	6	8		
5	7		1		4			
	1	6		9		2		
2	3			6		5		4
	5						2	
4		8		5			3	6
		5		3		4	6	
			5		9		8	1
		9	6	4		7		

## OFF CAMPUS

### How the food industry is dealing with recession

The recession is affecting everyone, including foodmakers and they are dealing with it by cutting products from the shelves.

Kraft Foods Inc., the nation's largest foodmaker, for example, will no longer sell Handi-Snacks pudding but instead will push new flavors of its more profitable Jell-O pudding. Other food companies from Sara Lee Food Corp. to H.J. Heinz Co. are trimming their product offerings to focus on their higher-margin, best-selling brands and to retain consumers, who are also trading down in the recession.

By getting rid of lesser-performing brands companies are able to better showcase top products as retailers cut inventory. Heinz aims to remove two items for each one it introduces and Sara Lee hopes to cut its offerings eight percent this fiscal year.

All of these cuts inevitably means fewer choices for consumers but analysts say that it probably will not be a big deal because the products do not have a significant following compared to the products that are staying on the shelves.

There are many reasons for these cuts. Heinz in particular considers product cuts a key strategy to trim costs and improve performance, said Scott O'Hara, executive vice president for Europe, who oversees the company's global supply chain. He said that excess sizes, types and flavors of products increase the cost of everything from marketing and production to sales, and during the recession, it's particularly important to conserve cash.

"The more we can simplify, while clearly meeting our customers' needs, the better off we are and the more cost we can drive out of business," he said.

O'Hara goes on to illustrate how simplification really is key for these businesses. Cutting products helps large companies to become less complex which is key for them to organize and manage. In turn they have a better turnaround on their products and a good turnaround is what every company strives for.

Most profit for many companies is concentrated in a small number of brands so it is not uncommon, he said, for 20 percent of a company's products to account for 80 percent of its profitability anyway.

### Obama travels west to unveil housing law

President Barack Obama ventured out of the White House on Tues, Feb 17 to head west to Denver and Phoenix to sign into law the 787 billion dollar stimulus package and make out a plan meant to keep families from losing their homes.

Obama is embarking on this journey in hopes of staying in closer contact with ordinary Americans. The visit also shows Obama's political strength by placing him in front of crowds eager for any financial relief the stimulus will deliver. The president is to sign the stimulus bill in Denver on Tues, Feb. 17 and a day later in Phoenix he will announce details of a plan to prevent home foreclosures.

"Denver is emblematic of the crisis that America's economy is facing but also of the benefits that American communities can see from this recovery plan," said White House spokesman Bill Burton. "A lot of middle-class families will be able to take advantage of the tax cuts in the plan. Arizona is a place where the housing crisis is most felt."

Last week, Obama traveled to Elkhart, Ind., and Fort Myers, Fla., for town hall-style events whose purposes were to pressure Congress into passing the stimulus bill. In the Denver area, unemployment has climbed sharply with the jobless rate at 6.3 percent in December, according to data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The year before, the rate was 4.4 percent.

Obama plans to announce his housing plan in Arizona because it is a state hit hard by foreclosures; in January, more than 4,500 homes in Arizona were repossessed. The president has dropped hints about the outlines of his housing plan which is estimated to cost between 50 billion dollars and \$100 billion dollars. Experts said that fixing the housing crisis cannot be done in isolation rather Obama also needs to create jobs and stabilize the financial markets. These are all steps that will help improve the broader economy and ultimately help housing prices rebound.

"Job losses are most damaging to the housing market, so taking on this challenge in the face of continuing job losses in the months ahead will be very difficult," said Nicolas Retsinas, director of the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University.

Information Courtesy of The Morning Call

# New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

## Write for News!

## Email

kf235779@muhlenberg.edu OR jb236317@muhlenberg.edu

### Campus Safety Notes

**Feb. 9 – Found Property –** A small video camera was found in the Red Door. Officer responded to residence of a student who posted an ad about a lost camera on the Message Board. Nobody was at the residence. Officer e-mailed the student. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

**Feb. 9 – Lost Property –** A wallet was lost on campus. The person discovered a hole in their coat pocket where the wallet was. There were no further incidents.

**Feb. 9 – Possession of Stolen Property –** Following up on a case of stolen property. The property was recovered and case will be referred to Judicial and the Office of the Dean of Students.

**Feb. 9 – Injured Student –** On the basketball court in the Life Sports Center, a student injured his leg while playing basketball. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were paged. The student was transported to the hospital.

**Feb. 10 – Found Property –** There have been three student IDs that have been at the front desk of the Life Sports Center for days. One card is broken in half and does not work and the others have been placed by the dispatcher's desk for the students to pick them up.

**Feb. 10 – Sick Student –** In Brown Hall, first floor, a student reported having an asthma attack. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and transported the student to the Health Center.

**Feb. 11 – Check the Welfare/Locate –** An officer was checking a room in Prosser Hall Main, first floor to see if there is an underage/minor person in

the room. Allentown Police Department was called and responded. The individual was picked up by their parent.

**Feb. 11 – Fire Alarm Sounding –** A fire alarm at 2201 Chew Street sounded from cooking. The system was silenced and reset with no further incident.

**Feb. 11 – Lost Property –** There has been a report on campus of a lost Muhlenberg ID along with credit cards and driver's license.

**Feb. 11 – Lost Property –** There was a report that a sticker was lost from a car bumper. The owner believes it fell off sometime on the way back to school from home over the weekend. A new sticker has been issued.

**Feb. 12 – Sick Student –** In Brown Hall, first floor, there was a report of a student who felt dizzy but was caught before hitting the floor. The student was conscious. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were paged. The student was taken to the Health Center.

**Feb. 12 – Safety Hazard –** There was a report in the Seegers Union Parking Lot that a piece of the building blew off during high winds and hit a silver SUV parked in the lot. Calls have been made to have individuals move their vehicles. The area was coned and taped off. There were no further incidents.

**Feb. 12 – Sick Student –** In the Life Sports Center there was a report of a student on the ground. Allentown EMS and Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. Cetronia Ambulance transported the student to the

hospital.

**Feb. 13 – Fire Alarm Sounding –** In Robertson Hall, third floor, a fire alarm sounded due to burnt popcorn. The system was silenced and reset with no further incident.

**Feb. 13 – Sick Student –** In Prosser Hall Main, second floor, a student was having problems breathing. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were paged. The student refused further treatment.

**Feb. 13 – Sick Student –** In Walz Hall, second floor, a student was found passed out in the hallway due to alcohol consumption. Muhlenberg College EMS called Allentown EMS. Allentown EMS took the student to the hospital. Referred to Judicial and the Office of the Dean of Students.

**Feb. 13 – Lost Property –** There was a report of a lost student ID in a red pouch with room keys attached in Seegers Union Lower Level. The items were found 15 minutes later.

**Feb. 13 – Found Property –** In Benfer Hall, first floor, a reporting party found syringes and a vial. The reporting party brought the items to Campus Safety. An officer dropped off the items at the Health Center for proper disposal.

**Feb. 13 – Fire Alarm Sounding –** A fire alarm sounded at Delta Zeta due to steam from a shower. The system was silenced and reset. There were no further incidents.

**Feb. 13 – Plumbing Problem –** In the Haas College Center there was a report of a water problem. Calls were made to individuals whose offices were

affected. Plant Operations and Housekeeping were notified. There was no further incident.

**Feb. 13 – Institutional Vandalism –** In Seegers Union there was a report of a broken glass pane in a door. Housekeeping was notified to clean up the area. A work order was submitted for repair. There are no suspects at this time.

**Feb. 13 – Institutional Vandalism –** In Martin Luther Hall, first floor, there was a report of students writing on walls with chalk. The individuals cleaned up the area. The case was referred to Judicial.

**Feb. 14 – Larceny/Theft –** There was a report of theft of a parking sticker. The student was issued a new sticker. There are no suspects at this time.

**Feb. 14 – Sick Student –** In Prosser Hall Annex, second floor, there was a report of a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS was paged.

**Feb. 14 – Motor Vehicle Accident –** There was a motor vehicle accident on Chew Street. A vehicle backed up into a student's car. Allentown Police Department responded to take a report. There was no further incident.

**Feb. 15 – Injured Student –** In Walz Hall, fourth floor, there was a report of a non-student with an injured ankle. Muhlenberg College EMS was paged and the person was transported to the hospital.

**Feb. 15 – Lost Property –** There was a report of a lost wallet in the General's Quarters around midnight. The victim went back to the Generals Quarters to look for it and did not find it.

**Feb. 15 – Fire Alarm Sounding –** A fire alarm sounded on Gordon Street. There are no suspects at this time.

**Feb. 15 – Larceny/Theft –** A student reported last seeing her coat on February 1, 2009 while in Sigma Phi Epsilon. There are no suspects at this time.

**Feb. 15 – Freshman with Auto –** A freshman was found with an automobile. The vehicle was also parked in a fire lane. The student owner was identified and referred to the Dean's Office.

**Feb. 15 – Vandalism to Vehicle –** There was vandalism to a vehicle in the Trexler Library Parking Lot. A student reported a side mirror being broken off the vehicle while parked in the Center for the Arts Parking Lot. There are no suspects at this time.

**Feb. 15 – Unlawful Entry/No Force –** A reporting party called the Allentown Police to report a burglary in their off campus house on Allen Street. When they arrived at their house, they heard noises coming from upstairs. The building was checked and no one was inside. The suspect vehicle was described as a newer model Cadillac, either gray or dark blue in color with tinted windows. Any information regarding the incident or the suspect vehicle should contact Campus Safety at 484-664-3110. All students are reminded to secure their valuables within their rooms and to lock any exterior doors to their residence when they are not present and/or sleeping. All individuals are reminded to report any suspicious vehicle or people to Campus Safety and/or the APD immediately.



# Life!

"Life is the flower for which love is the honey."

- Victor Hugo

## Hearing Aggression in *The*

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

The Muhlenberg Theatre and Dance Department presents Howard Barker's *The Possibilities* this week, Wednesday through Sunday. *The Possibilities* is a challenging work by one of Great Britain's boldest and most revered living playwrights that asks fundamental questions about living in our wounded world through ten short plays. Shannon Fitsimmons '09 and Aaron Lawson '09 direct alongside Professor James Peck. The short plays are sewn together with original music composed by Professor Douglass Ovens.

Ovens is an experimental composer of national renown and is creating a unique "soundscape" for the play that may at first seem strange. He describes the music he has made for the show as "sometimes aggressively threatening, sometimes introspective. My music seeks to capture the sense of balance between strangeness and familiarity." The raw individual stories present figures caught in the web of war, imperialism and violence stretching from Biblical times to the present.

When asked where he gets inspirations for the sounds of threat and danger he creates, Ovens cited

everything from current events in the newspaper to the work of other people in his field. "The music I write is contemporary. There are lots of people involved in experimentation across the world. Just as playwrights listen to each other's work when making new things, I keep track of other composer's experimentation."

Ovens' brand of experimenting involves finding different ways of getting sound out of conventional instruments. "I attached contact microphones to standard instruments like gongs and cymbals creating unusual noise." He's even raided the kitchen cupboard drilling holes into steel mixing bowls to mount them so he can make a new sound generating object he can play live in performance.

Ovens is joined live on stage by James Thoma for all five performances. Thoma is one of Ovens' long time collaborators and has occasionally taught on the Muhlenberg faculty since 1990. He is a freelance New York City percussionist who trained at Julliard and has played in the orchestras of many Broadway musicals.

The duo's performance of the incidental music will link the ten plays into a cohesive whole. "One

of the things a composer must do when writing music for the theatre is be conscious that the soundscape should fit seamlessly into a whole. There are brief moments where my music really becomes the main thing, but the sound I create has to move us from one world to another, the music has to seem that it belongs to the play. That is an interesting challenge. To make the thing organic, of the piece."

As with most creative endeavors, there was an interesting revision process to the work. Once Ovens agreed to work on the project, James Peck gave him some detailed writing about what kind of world he saw the plays happening in. Conversations began with Ovens and the entire directing team.

It was then left up to the composer to go off and make sounds and music. He recorded things as he went so they could converse about what would work in each spot. Some of it was dead on, and some was rearranged. For example, Ovens noted that after hearing a particular selection, Peck said the music was far too beautiful for this moment and needed to be more aggressive.

The playwright Howard Barker is known for his aggressive work. He

coined the term "Theatre of Catastrophe" to describe his writing. He has come from a working class background to become one of the major writers on the modern European theater scene, opening audiences' minds with challenging theatrical experiences. His writing is known for pushing boundaries and invoking thought. The music commissioned for this presentation seeks to similarly innovate and challenge.

Caitlin O'Meally '09, an actress in the cast, said that the first time she heard the music in rehearsal she was "completely chilled to the bone because it was like nothing I'd ever heard before. He uses such interesting instruments." Most audiences are familiar enough with the ways a movie or TV soundtrack affects their viewing experience, but in this kind of live performance, the music goes much further and really affects the work of the actors. The original soundscape will augment the aggression and force with which the performers take the stage.

Barker's *The Possibilities* runs Feb. 18 to Feb. 22 in the Studio Theatre. Tickets may be sold out, but interested students may inquire before performances about last minute available tickets.

## Coraline: Eyes, the Windows to the Soul?

By Ben Levine  
WEEKLY LIFE CO-EDITOR

Many movies that were designed for younger audiences have included entertainment for the parents who inevitably accompany their children to the movies. However, few movies have been able to bridge the gap between children and jaded teenagers. Henry Selick (*James and the Giant Peach* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*) was the perfect director to accomplish this task. Like his previous films, *Coraline* is thoroughly dark.

Coraline (don't call her Caroline) is an eleven-year-old girl who moves with her neglectful parents into a pink Victorian in the middle of the woods. From the start, it is made clear that company is few and far between for Coraline. Her parents are no help. They are far too busy working on their gardening book (even though they hate gardening). However, the characters she is sur-

rounded by are tremendously entertaining. She is frequently bugged by her galling neighbor Wybie "Why are you alive" Lovat. The neighbors add much needed comic relief in an otherwise dark movie. The upstairs neighbor, Mr. Bobinsky, is an oddly shaped acrobat with oddly prophetic mice. The downstairs neighbors consist of two former entertainers, Miss Spink and Miss Forcible, the latter is incredibly top heavy.

One night, Coraline goes through a passageway which leads into what seems like the exact same house. However, her parents are perfect, a little too perfect. They are attentive, they cook fabulous meals, and manipulate the garden to look like her face. Those are not the only difference, they also have no eyes. It is frequently said that eyes are the windows to the soul. The fact that Coraline's "other mother" has no eyes is not only a creepy addition but also foreshadows that the

replacement of eyes with buttons literally and metaphorically shows that the character has lost his soul. Coraline soon discovers that her "other mother" wants Coraline to have "traditional black" buttons sewn into her eyes as well. She soon finds herself in the middle of a game with epic consequences if she loses.

*Coraline* suggests that there is no such thing as perfection. The movie rejects the platonic dualism that it presents. There is no alternate world which is perfect. Perhaps, when things are perfect, that is when one's guard should be at its strongest. Looks can be deceiving. If something seems perfect, there has to be a source of deception.

The visuals are the highlight of the movie. For lack of a better word, they are stunning. The stop motion, which has become Selick's trademark, adds an eerie effect to the film. While the motion of the

characters looks natural, it has an unnatural feel to it that makes the whole movie feel like a nightmare. Supposedly, it takes a week to shoot seventy-four seconds of footage. This arduous technique was well worth it because of the ghostly feeling it left on the audience.

Of course, the main message of the movie is that for better or worse, your parents are still your parents. However, it doesn't come off as too preachy. The neglected Coraline feels real and the audience sees very little remorse from the parents early on. This almost gives the film a first-person view, which allows the audience to fully empathize with Coraline. Ultimately, *Coraline* is a lesson in self reliance. Although she receives assistance from her friends, she is largely reliant on her own ingenuity and scrappy nature. *Coraline* was a phenomenal movie that will prove that film doesn't have to be rated R to ring true or excite.



# Panettiere, Hayek, Brown, M.I.A, Phelps, Lohan

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

In celebrity couples news, *Heroes'* actors Hayden Panettiere and Milo Ventimiglia ended their relationship this past week. The stars attributed their split to lifestyle differences, which undoubtedly stem from their ages. Panettiere is 19, while Ventimiglia is 31. Panettiere apparently likes going out taking part in the Hollywood nightlife, while Ventimiglia is more of a home-body and uninterested in that scene. Friends of the former couple reveal that the split was amicable and that the two remain friends.

Salma Hayek married French billionaire Francois-Henri Pinault on Valentine's Day. Hayek and Pinault have a seventeen month old daughter, Valentina, together.

The pair wed in a small civil ceremony at a town hall in Paris. Although Hayek and Pinault had split for a short time last year, they soon reconciled and became re-engaged.

Chris Brown released a statement regarding his

alleged violence towards girlfriend Rihanna.

Brown expressed remorse over what happened, but was quick to mention that many of the rumors about the incident reported in the media have been wrong.

The singer admits that he is looking to people close to him for support, stating that he is "seeking the counseling of [his] pastor, [his] mother and other loved ones and [is] committed, with God's help, to emerging a better person."

British rapper M.I.A gave birth to a baby boy last Wednesday. The star had performed at the Grammy Awards on her due date just three days earlier. She revealed on her blog that she had started her early stages of labor at 2:00 a.m. on Monday morning, mere hours after performing.

Olympic gold-medalist Michael Phelps will not be charged as a result of the

picture that surfaced recently of him smoking marijuana. Police admitted that they do not have enough evidence to be able to prosecute him.

The infamous picture has already cost Phelps his endorsement deal with Kellogg's, and resulted in a three month suspension from USA Swimming.

The swimmer had released a statement soon after the picture became public in which he apologized and denounced his behavior.

Lindsay Lohan has recently generated some negative buzz over her skinny appearance. The actress' current look seems reminiscent of her publicly-debated bony frame of several years ago.

Lohan's weight has often been an object of scrutiny in the press, and she admits that she's used to it by now. "They've already said everything about me that they can say. And I've never really

cared" she says.

Lohan claims that her eating habits are the same as they have always been, and that she continues to eat whatever she wants. "I eat. I just had my Big Mac yesterday from McDonalds," says the star. Lohan also states that any recent weight loss is unintentional.

She blames her stressful work schedule for the change in her appearance, adding that the "lack of sleep when [she] travel[s]" also plays a part.

Former Vice-Presidential candidate Sarah Palin's daughter, Bristol, is speaking out on the issue of teen pregnancy. The 18 year old faced negative publicity for her own pregnancy during the campaigning period late last year. Palin admits that her situation was not ideal, and that teenagers should wait until they are older to have children. She goes on to say that telling her parents about her pregnancy was "harder than labor." The teenager adds that despite her mother's political views, it was her (Bristol's) own decision to have the baby.

## Gossip Guru

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

IF YOU COULD BE A CELEBRITY, WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY?



"Margaret Thatcher, because she's a strong woman like myself."  
- Tom Stamm, '10



"Helena Bonham Carter, because she is extraordinarily, generously expressive."  
- Laura Sukonick, '10



"Anne Hathaway, because she plays wholesome roles."  
- Lauren Minnich, '11



"Julia Roberts, because she's a good actress and had sex with Richard Gere."  
- Anvi Patel, '12



"Mickey Mouse, because he's one of the few surviving this recession."  
- Craig Hanson, '09

COMPILED BY ROBYN COHEN

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Friday the 13th

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

### Coraline

Fri. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

### Taken

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30

### He's Just Not That Into You

Fri. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sat. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sun. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00

### Confessions of a Shopaholic

Fri. 4:50, 7:30, 10:10  
Sat. 4:50, 7:30, 10:10  
Sun. 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

### Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Fri. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40  
Sat. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40  
Sun. 5:00, 7:10, 9:40

### Madea Goes to Jail

Fri. 4:40, 7:40, 10:20  
Sat. 4:40, 7:40, 10:20  
Sun. 4:40, 7:40, 10:20



## *The Possibilities: In Pictures*



Clockwise from top right:

A veiled Natalie West '09 plays the Old Woman in *Not Him*.

Guest musician James Thomas plays both familiar and unusual percussion instruments in Owen's original soundscape for *The Possibilities*.

Christa Wroblewski '09, Robert Grimm '09, and Danielle Zito '11 discover a shocking intrusion in *The Weaver's Ecstasy at the Discovery of New Colour*.

Wilma Cespedes-Rivera '09 as Judith raises the axe in *The Unforeseen Consequences of a Patriot Act*.

PHOTOS BY KENNETH EK

## The night I will always remember, but would rather forget

By N. O. Moorsecks  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

So, I'm back after a ridiculously long hiatus - ready and willing to share the nitty, gritty details of my explicit sex life...which to tell you truth, isn't quite that extraordinary at the moment. After all, it can't be all rainbows, butterflies, and orgasms all the time, can it? The answer is no. Well, maybe - if you're in a steady, loving, and committed relationship with your vibrator.

For those of us who aren't, or at least won't admit it, there are always the memories of our hottest sexual escapades and the fantasies of what could - and might - happen tomorrow, to keep us charged.

To begin, I will attempt to entertain you with the most embarrassing moment of my entire existence - which ironically happened to also be the moment I lost my virginity. Now listen, all of those horrific stories that you've read in *Glamour* and *Cosmo* over and over again about the miserable experiences of countless young women who have had bizarre and outrageous first time's ain't got nothing on mine - so prepare yourselves, okay?

Way back when (in May) I was spending the weekend with a guy I really liked at my parents vacation home, minus my parents. It was Friday night and we had been steadily uncorking and knocking back bottle after bottle of cheap wine for about three hours. After the third or fourth bottle, we were kind of at a loss for an evening activity. After debating whether to play Domino's or Go-Fish for about an hour, we were sick of talking (and a tad bit intoxicated). We decided to try our luck at making out. As it turns out, we were really good at that game.

One thing led to another (although I hate using that phrase because everything leads to another, just bear with me). One thing led to another, and we ended up naked on the living room couch. I knew this was going to happen - and apparently he did too because we didn't speak but I silently acknowledged, and happily accepted, the fact that he wanted to take my virginity.

He got up to grab the proper protection, and I awkwardly attempted to brush my hair out of my eyes and make myself look as presentable as I possibly could naked. He came back and we started going at it.

The first few minutes were great. But the minutes could have been hours. I really have no idea. I felt like time didn't really exist and my only duty at this particular

moment in time was to take pleasure in the fact that I was finally having sex. With a boy I was comfortable with. And really liked. A lot.

After a while, I mustered up the courage (and energy) to do something daring. I had seen this move in quite a few pornos - not by choice, obviously, and I was going to attempt it. I pulled a way for a second and got on top of this boy in an effort to ride him until the sun came up, or we were done (whichever came first, no pun intended). Anyway, I enjoyed myself immensely because I was actually looking directly at his face from where I was perched. He was getting pretty close, and then the unthinkable happened.

No, he did not start crying, but he did take a deep breath and blurt, "I love you. Marry me?" Seriously? My first "I love you," a marriage proposal, and the loss of my virginity was way too much for me to handle at one time. I'm pretty positive I stopped breathing, and I know I turned a shade of greenish-blue. As soon as I regained enough consciousness to smile, I did. Then, I opened my mouth and prayed to everything holy that something good would come out of it. You know, like "I love you, too," or a moan. I would have even taken, "thanks," over what actually happened.

As the boy underneath me, well, finished, to put it as politely as possible, I opened my mouth only to find that I was unintentionally, and uncontrollably, vomiting all over his chest. Yes, you read that correctly, and no, I am not making this up. I threw up all over the guy who had professed his love for me, asked me for my hand in marriage, and taken my virginity. Why, you may ask? Well, I don't know, and I've been trying to figure this out since it happened. I think that I was so overwhelmed at that moment and the only way that I could react was to projectile vomit directly onto his torso. He took it as well as he possibly could have and cleaned himself off, but never again did we bring up the night that he took my virginity, said he loved me, proposed, and was covered in my dinner from the day before.

So, here is the take home message. Don't vomit on the man or woman who says they love you. This person won't say it again, probably won't marry you, and definitely won't have sex with you anymore.

By Kevin Tomasura  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

It's Friday night. Things have been going pretty well, and thus far you're pretty sure just might remember it all tomorrow. With your hopes high, and your confidence unchecked, you decide to head back to the room so you can gussy up for what lies ahead.

After all, you've been wearing the same clothes for more than three hours. Once at your room, you grab the handle, give it a twist, and walk right in. Your roommate's sitting at their desk, looking to be quite deep in thought. In fact, they hardly notice you even *after* you say your mandatory, "this-is-me-saying-hello-in-a-non-startling-way-just-to-let-you-know-I'm-here-hello". While your words hang loose, reverberating loudly across every potentiality of awkwardness, you watch in horror as your roommate turns slowly, the "look" indelibly stamped across their face.

Once you've seen the fragile fledglings of the "look", they need not turn another inch. So it begins. You've seen it before. First it's that off-center glance, then a shrug of the shoulders. This is followed shortly thereafter by a seemingly innocuous shake of the hands. By then, the bait is already laid, and you can already feel the cold steel of the snare's metal teeth beginning to clamp down. Your roommate pauses, fumbling with their words. There it is: the pause that tells it all. Like any good harbinger, that look is followed by the most terrible of tragedies. They take a second and recollect their thoughts, and then, with a renewed vigor, they resume their assault. They say "so", or even "um", but you know *they know* what comes next.

Next, they say your name. That cuts deep, they're calling out the big guns. Following the 'Official Awkward Handbook' step-by-step, they enter phase three of their plan, and the third horn of this night's apocalypse is sounded triumphantly. They ask if you would be so kind of a lovely, beautiful, caring, benevolent person to grant them a favor, and just this *once*. They ask if, within your infinite mercy, you can find the time to satisfy their meekest of needs. They ask if they can have the room.

You've just been sexiled. In reality you don't have to imagine this, only remember it, because surely, it has happened to you. So prevalent this

## The tragedy of the commons

practice has become, that it exists as a sort of status quo in the college world. It is not uncommon, nor surprising to see your friends as they roam the halls, lost souls without a vessel. Since the very first week of school, many have worn the tattered mark of the sexiled with shame, pride, and some even with a thirst for revenge; a vengeance that is often fulfilled. The fact of the matter is that we all know that feeling; that sudden devastation of being homeless. So begins the veritable chaos theory of college housing.

Once you have been displaced, the universe must recoil with the consequences of its disruption. You place the call. Actually, it's more likely you've placed the *text*. With great irony, you, just moments before endowed with the powerful leverage of a fresh favor, are reduced to a groveling hobo, in need of shelter from the mean streets of Muhlenberg. You ask all your friends if you can stay the night, adding yet another weight to the less savory side of the "is that kid annoying?" scale.

Luckily, one kind soul takes you in, but not before you have interrupted the sexcapades of many of your compadres, woken up several of your less motivated fellows, and successfully indebted yourself to at least half of your peers in at least some sense. At last, as you finally lay your head to rest in a stranger's bed (or cold, unwelcoming floor), you replay the night's events in your head on shuffle and repeat. As you toss and turn in frustration you imagine bitterly the joyous "sleep" of your roommate(s).

Lastly, as you fail to sleep at all, you eagerly await next Thursday, because your new friend from film class is going to sleep over, and guess what, your roomie owes you one. So it goes, for all is fair game in the dog eat dog world of college, and the horny dog besets the tired, sleepy, grumbly dog world of living in a dorm. Life is rough, and hopeful students eagerly await the inclusion of a sleeping lounge, in which the quasi-orphan sons and daughters of Muhlenberg College can find a home.

Maybe one day, with the establishment of a shelter for those damaged or displaced by the atrocious crime that is sexiling, as well as the addition of a helpful hotline, and maybe some little pamphlets that have information about where to seek help; all this can be fixed. Until that day, which can't come soon enough, hang on ye faithful students of Muhlenberg College, and use this newspaper next time you are freezing cold, lying/dying on a bench outside in the dead of winter, and all because your roommate needed some "special bonding time."

Battle  
of  
the Sexes



# Academy Award Picks

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

Sunday marks the 81st installment of the Academy Awards. In this article I will both, choose who I think is most deserving candidate and predict who I think will actually take home the statuette. My personal selections will be marked in **bold**. My choice for who I think will actually win will be written in *italics* and in CAPS.

## Best Picture:

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button  
Frost/Nixon  
Milk  
The Reader  
**SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE**

2008 was a year without a major motion picture that stood out as a great film. While *Benjamin Button* is a technological marvel, it felt like a half-hour long gimmick stretched out over three hours. *Milk* is a contender, but I felt as though I had seen it before and *The Reader* provided great performances, but probably shouldn't have been nominated. For me, only *Frost/Nixon* and *Slumdog Millionaire* are left. Ron Howard took the widely successful play, *Frost/Nixon*, about the David Frost/Richard Nixon interviews, and turned it into the best movie of the year. Both Frank Langella and

Michael Sheen are thrills to watch. But it was the story and direction that kept me on the edge of my seat the entire film. However, Danny Boyle's *Slumdog Millionaire* will come away with the golden statuette. The once unheralded, and now slightly overrated, film is inspiring audiences across America. *Slumdog* will win because it is a movie that people can see to lift their spirits, something that is very difficult to come by during these tough economic times.

## Best Actor:

**Richard Jenkins - The Visitor**  
Frank Langella - Frost/Nixon  
*SEAN PENN - MILK*  
Brad Pitt - The Curious Case of Benjamin Button  
Mickey Rourke - The Wrestler

This was probably the most difficult category to pick due to the quality of the performances nominated. Both Mickey Rourke and Frank Langella deserve Oscars, and any other year they probably would have won. But for me, Richard Jenkins gave the most honest and convincing performance of the group. His portrayal as a painfully lonely professor left me both emotionally drained but wanting more; a testament to his abilities. That being said, I feel that the Academy will choose Sean Penn for his portrayal as the groundbreaking politician

Harvey Milk. While Jenkins gave the most honest performance, Penn gave the most powerful one, which is why he will take home the Oscar.

## Best Actress:

Anne Hathaway - Rachael Getting Married  
Angelina Jolie - Changeling  
Melissa Leo - Frozen River  
Meryl Streep - Doubt  
**Kate Winslet - The Reader**

Kate Winslet is finally being nominated in the correct category for *The Reader* after being put in Supporting Actress categories for both the Golden Globes and SAG awards; both of which she won. Winslet plays a former Nazi guard on trial who is also having a relationship with a teenage boy. Winslet's performance was brave, credible and heartfelt and I feel the Academy will agree with me.

## Best Supporting Actor:

**Josh Brolin - Milk**  
Robert Downey Jr. - Tropic Thunder  
Philip Seymour Hoffman - Doubt  
**HEATH LEDGER - THE DARK KNIGHT**  
Michael Shannon - Revolutionary Road

I hope one day the Academy will honor comedic performances such as Robert Downey Jr.'s.

Unfortunately for him, I don't think they will do it this year. For me, Josh Brolin's portrayal of politician turned murderer, Dan White, was the most memorable supporting performance of the year. I left the theater wanting to see a follow-up movie told from White's point of view. Heath Ledger though, will come away with the posthumous Oscar for his chilling performance as The Joker. When watching *The Dark Knight*, Ledger's presence can be felt, even when he's not onscreen.

## Best Supporting Actress:

Amy Adams - Doubt  
**PENELOPE CRUZ - VICKY CHRISTINA BARCELONA**  
**Viola Davis - Doubt**  
Taraji P. Henson - The Curious Case of Benjamin Button  
Marissa Tomei - The Wrestler

Viola Davis spent maybe ten minutes onscreen, but in those ten minutes she provided the most powerful performance of the film, and of anyone else nominated. Despite her gripping and heartbreaking performance, the beautiful and talented Cruz will take home this Oscar for her work as an insanely-jealous ex-wife in *Vicky Christina Barcelona*. Cruz is funny, sexy, strong and determined as Javier Bardem's ex-wife, Maria Elena. In this role, Cruz proves that she is one of the best actresses working in Hollywood.

## Umphrey's McGee - *Mantis*

By Nick LaFalce  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

If you are already a fan of Umphrey's McGee, then you already know that their new CD *Mantis* has arrived. If you aren't, then let's get you up to speed.

Known for their incredible live show, Umphrey's is giving a facelift to the term "jam band," and with this newest studio release they bring the live experience home to you.

While they receive little-to-no mainstream attention, they do have a solid, devoted, and growing fanbase; and they sure deserve it.

Here's why: These guys can play their instruments at virtuosic levels, they definitely know how to write great songs and most importantly, they know how to tastefully mix both elements into a sound that is truly original and organic.

Take the jamminess of Phish, stir in the progressive element of Dream Theater and Frank Zappa, and mix with pop elements seen in The Beatles (ever heard of em?).

Allow two hours to cool off before rocking.

*Mantis* shows to be the band's

most centralized, mature work to date. While each track on their other albums can jump from genre to genre, this album simply *rocks*.

The title track, *Mantis* fully encompasses everything that is Umphrey's; standing at a solid twelve minutes but never feeling played out or tired.

*Turn and Run* also features Cinninger proving that he can hold his own with any other "Guitar Gods" out there. The catchiest song award goes to *Cemetery Walk*, starting with a slow piano intro and then kicking in with a riff that can only be described as badass.

With the opening lines "I got a secret but you're kind of like a polygraph/" and continuing later with "It's not a cage if you're feeling like a resident" vocalist and guitarist Brendan Bayliss proves that the lyrics are worthy of accompanying such amazing music.

While most of their magic is experienced in a live setting, *Mantis* proves that the greatest improv/jam/progressive rock band in the country can still wow its fans in the privacy of their own headphones.

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# Muhlenberg Gospel Choir Hits a Chord in the Valley

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

"Gospel choir" and "Muhlenberg" may not seem synonymous – but there's no denying that the college's gospel choir has hit the right notes in the Lehigh Valley. *Rejoice*, Muhlenberg Gospel Choir, left a winning impression on more than 700 attendees of *Faith! A Clash of the Valley Choirs*, held Jan. 31 at Allentown Symphony Hall.

"We won the first ever clash of the Lehigh Valley choirs," said Karen Green, Dean of Students. "That cemented our position in the valley."

In its third year on campus, the ensemble has 35 members "from all walks of life," said Denise Ozer, '10, Student Director. "We sort of unite through the overall message of the music." Green echoed that sentiment. "You have students who are white. You have students who are Asian. You have students who are African American. Students who identify themselves as Christian. Students who identify themselves as Jewish," she said. "They have found a common ground," Green said.

With a steady schedule of performance gigs and a first-place finish at the Clash under their belt, it's hard to believe that the choir began with just a handful of members.

"We called ourselves 'the few, the proud,'" Ozer joked. She was among the core group of students seeking to form the choir in Spring 2007, including Sarah Grady '10, Sareve Lawson '09, and choir president Donna Ward '09.

The students were taken under the wing of Green, who previously established gospel choirs at Wells College and Hamilton College. "I jokingly call myself the 'founding mother,'" Green said. "I had talked with students.

There had been attempts. It just never seemed to get started." With the Dean's support, and the addition of Rodwin Lowe as faculty director, the idea of a gospel choir turned into reality. "[Lowe] really

helped to move us from a group who liked to sing to an actual choir," Ozer said. "We started to sing regularly."

*Rejoice's* turning point was a March 2007 gospel workshop weekend with gospel maestros Kirk Hatcher and Edward "Chief" Menifee Jr. Green recalled listening to the choir that weekend. "When we sang that at the level we did, I really felt we had made it." "I thought, 'That is what gospel is about,'" she said.

The group gave their first campus performance in Empie Theater that weekend. It struck a chord among faculty. "After that, the [college] President offered to buy us robes," Ozer said.

"Of course, I don't know if he knew that we would grow to 30 members," Green added with a laugh.

The robes – red, with white stoles – are donned regularly at the choir's performance venues. While many Berg students hit the snooze button on Sunday morning, gospel members rise before 8:00 a.m. to sing at churches and campuses across the state.

This Sunday, the choir spent eight hours at Gettysburg College. Last Sunday was spent at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

"You're talking a service at 8:30, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. That's tiring," said Green.

Not to mention, the choir's gamut of on-campus gigs. But the busy schedule is well worth it, members say.

"When we perform for students, there's a genuine enjoyment from people you don't get out of other performances," said Eric Thompson, '10, a choir soloist.

"Maybe it's just refreshing to people. It speaks in a different way," he said.

*Rejoice's* diverse ensemble is one that can't be easily categorized – and its founding members hope that it stays that way. "People don't know what box to put us in," Ozer said. "You know what box to put A cappella in. To put choir in. To put a soccer game in. They haven't found that box for us yet." She paused for a moment, and then replied, "I kind of hope they never do."

## This Week in History Sponsored by the History Club

On February 19, 1945, the U.S. began the invasion of Iwo Jima with a U.S. marine amphibious assault. By evening, 500 marines were dead and 1,800 wounded when the Japanese opened on the marines as they assaulted the beach with seven full battalions. The fierce fighting will rage on for another 35 days before American forces gained full control of the island.

On February 20, 1792, President George Washington signed legislation renewing the United States Post Office as a cabinet department led by the Postmaster General, guaranteeing inexpensive delivery of all newspapers, stipulating the right to privacy and granting Congress the ability to expand postal service to new areas of the nation.

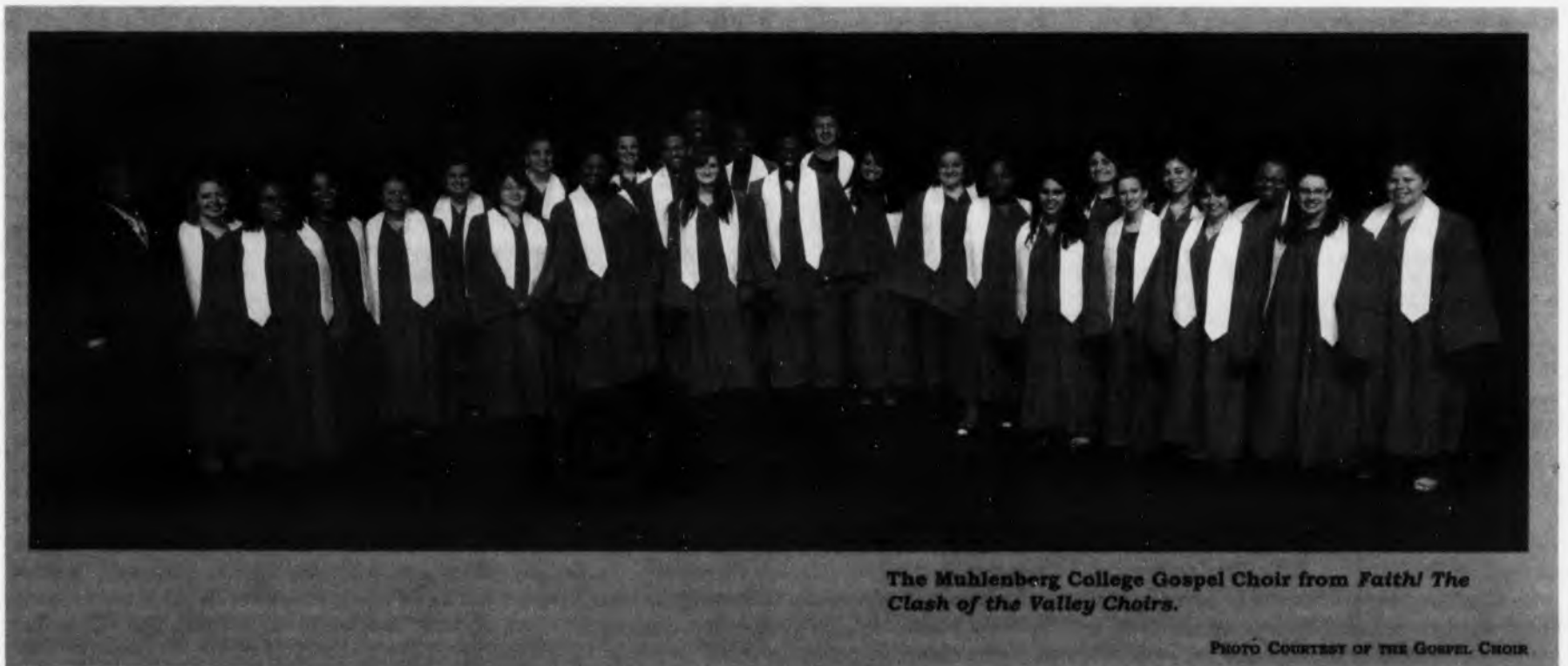
On February 21, 1965, in Manhattan's Audubon Ballroom, Malcolm X began to speak to a meeting of the Organization of Afro-American Unity when a disturbance broke out in the crowd of 400. A man rushed forward and shot Malcolm X in the chest with a sawed-off shotgun. Two other men charged the stage and fired handguns, hitting him 16 times. Angry onlookers caught and beat one of the assassins as the others fled the ballroom.

On February 22, 1946, George Kennan, the American charge d'affaires in Moscow, sends an 8,000-word telegram to the Department of State detailing his views on the Soviet Union, and U.S. policy toward the communist state. Kennan's analysis provided one of the most influential underpinnings for America's Cold War policy of containment.

On February 23, 1945, during the battle for Iwo Jima, U.S. Marines raise the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi, the highest point on the island of Iwo Jima and a key strategic point. Later, Marine commanders decided to raise a second, larger flag, an event which an Associated Press photographer captured on film. The resulting photograph became a defining image of the war.

On February 24, 1803, the Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice John Marshall, decided the landmark case of *William Marbury v. James Madison* and confirmed the legal principle of judicial review—the ability of the Supreme Court to limit Congressional power by declaring legislation unconstitutional—in the new nation.

On February 25, 1971, in both houses of Congress, legislation was initiated to forbid U.S. military support of any South Vietnamese invasion of North Vietnam without congressional approval. This legislation was a result of the controversy that arose after the invasion of Laos by South Vietnamese forces in Operation Lam Son 719. On February 8, South Vietnamese forces had launched a major cross-border operation into Laos to interdict the Ho Chi Minh Trail and destroy the North Vietnamese supply dumps in the area.



The Muhlenberg College Gospel Choir from *Faith! The Clash of the Valley Choirs*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GOSPEL CHOIR



# Los Angeles could use work at center

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Los Angeles Kings are quite an interesting team. For many years, they have had great prospective players but they have never

been able to focus their potential talent into a successful team career.

Now, more than ever, they need to use their young players' raw talent in order to grow to become skilled players; they have a lot of talent waiting in the wings, and they will only improve by playing on the big team night in and night out.

So here we go, the top five LA Kings' prospects at the center position:

Brian Boyle- C, 12/18/1984, First round pick (26th overall) in 2003, Manchester Monarchs (AHL)

Boyle, a huge center at 6'7", resembles a forward version of Boston Bruins' monster Zdeno Chara. He has powerful strides that give him very good skating ability, and of course, can get in a stance in front of the net that cannot be moved. He is extremely strong, is very hard to be knocked off his skates, and uses his size well, throwing his body around.

The shot against Boyle, who was ranked as the 72nd best prospect in the NHL by The Hockey News in 2008, is that he does not work hard enough. The Kings are also unsure of where to place him. He went to camp this summer to learn how to be a defenseman, yet when he returned to the AHL, he remained at his natural center position. The Kings need to find a place for Boyle before he gets too confused with his role on the ice.

With 62 points in his rookie year with the Monarchs, Boyle proved he presence on the ice, yet he struggled when called up to the Kings earlier this year, scoring just two points in 20 games.

Verdict: Boyle will be able to make the NHL team if he puts his mind to it. A talented player his size is rare, and now that the Kings found him, they have to push him to work harder than he ever has. If they can succeed in getting the full potential out of Boyle, he could wind up being a second or third line center.

Trevor Lewis- C, 1/8/1987, First round pick (17th overall) in 2006, Manchester Monarchs (AHL)

Trevor Lewis, an average sized player at 6'1 and 192 pounds, was one of the last players cut in Kings' training camp in the fall. An incredibly speedy player, Lewis can fly around the ice at top speeds, and has legs explosive enough to make an NHL player jealous. He is also a very smart player on the ice, and has great awareness while playing. Lewis was also named the Kings' fifth best prospect in their 2008 Future Watch issue.

In addition to his speed, one of the best aspects of Lewis is the fact that he is a great two-way player, something every team covets. He can play at even strength, shorthanded, on the power play, and more. Lewis also knows how to finish checks. He would never be caught dead out of position due to chasing a hit, but when the opportunity arises, Lewis will deliver a smack-down, leaving someone staring at the ceiling. His offensive ability has not transferred from juniors to pro, as his point-per-game output was lowered to about 0.4 points per game. However, his defensive ability has done anything but lessen.

Verdict: Lewis is the checking line center that every team wants. He is fast enough to forecheck deep in the offensive zone, but gets back quickly to help his team out in front of their own goalie. He needs to do some work on faceoffs, but he will definitely be on one of the Kings' bottom two lines within the next year or two.

Justin Azevedo- C, 4/1/1988, Sixth round pick (153rd overall) in 2008, Kitchener Rangers (OHL), Manchester Monarchs (AHL)

By just looking at his stats, Azevedo would seem like a top notch player who could tear up a league.

So why was he a sixth round pick in last year's draft, and why is he only in the AHL?

Azevedo is an unbelievable player, but has one major setback that will prevent him from succeeding in the NHL: he cannot perform when opposing teams play him physically.

His 5'7, 183 pound frame cannot take the thrashing, and when he is hit hard, he shuts down both physically and mentally. He struggles to find open ice at times, and is extremely inconsistent for being a 120 point scorer in the OHL.

With 18 points in 19 AHL games thus far in 2009, he is succeeding in his short pro career, but needless to say, he needs to develop a competitive edge if he hopes to succeed in the NHL.

Azevedo has such great heart when plays, and is very elusive, yet he does not seem to be competitive enough. He loves the game, but when he needs to go in the corners to fight for the puck, he simply cannot do it. He also fails to play stellar defense because of his failure to be physical with his opponents.

Verdict: If Azevedo develops competitiveness and a tolerance for physical play, he could wind up being another Henrik Zetterberg; a diamond in the rough, found deep in the draft.

Bud Holloway- C, 3/1/1988, Third round pick (85th overall) in 2006, Seattle Thunderbirds (WHL), Manchester Monarchs (AHL)

Signing an entry-level deal with the Los Angeles Kings last offseason, Holloway is a reliable player with a great work ethic. He comes to the rink every day to work, but is also able to continue to enjoy his time on the ice, which is rare in this day and age. A dominant offensive player in the WHL, his numbers did not transfer so well to the Kings' AHL affiliate, yet his ability to step up on defense has indeed improved.

With only 12 points in 38 games thus far, Holloway definitely has room for improvement with the puck, yet he is a player the coach would be comfortable playing while defending a one-goal lead late in the game. Holloway plays on the penalty kill, and could truly help out a Kings' penalty kill that is already top notch. Bud is also a great leader on the ice, and will do anything a coach asks him to. He "just didn't give us any reason to keep him out of the lineup. He's very reliable, understands the game and can play on both wings," head coach Rob Sumner explains (Hockey's Future).

Verdict: Holloway is a two-way player that the Kings would love to have on their lineup. On any other team, he may not make the lineup, but on a Kings' team, weak at forward, he may become a regular fourth liner for his career.

David Meckler- C, 7/9/1987, Fifth round pick (134th overall) in 2006, London Knights (OHL), Manchester Monarchs (AHL)

Drafting David Meckler was like swinging at an outside pitch, and still getting a single out of it. He did not perform very well in the USHL or in his one year at Yale, but after being drafted and playing in the OHL, he became a point per game player. He did not keep up that pace in Manchester when he turned pro, but he is still a very dependable player.

Meckler can play all three forward positions, which is a huge bonus when trying to make an NHL team. He has good speed, great vision, and is extremely intelligent, as one can see from his admission to an Ivy League University. His shot has a quick release, similar to Philadelphia Flyer Jeff Carter, and he can also play physically when that's what his team needs.

His only downside is that he calls himself an offensive forward, yet his offensive skills do not translate into a spot on a scoring line. If he wants to make the Kings' squad, he will only be doing it on a checking line, for which he needs to improve his defense.

Verdict: Meckler could make the fourth line on the wing if he improves his defense, but look for him to be a career minor leaguer.

Next up: Left wingers!

Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report and the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers' section; a writer for TheHockeyWriters.com, Prohockeynews.com and Insidehockey.com, he is also the co-host of NHL 2Day, a weekly radio show on Youcastr.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com.

## KON TIKI FROM PAGE 15

Every hero has a tragic flaw. After four semesters of glory, Eric's tragic flaw finally caught up to him. Eric never could turn down a party, and despite the wishes of his best friends, Eric decided to retire his career as a Mule. After moving from New Hampshire to Idaho, Eric decided to permanently move to Denver, CO. Eric now resides there happily as a successful working adult with aspirations to join the National Guard this spring.

So how does this all tie into an intramural sports franchise? Simply put, every member of Kon Tiki plays in honor of Eric Stevens. Instead of playing for the name that would be on the back of a jersey, every member of the

team plays for the same front of the t-shirt that Eric wore three times a week freshman year. So whether it's senior Steve Tenenzapf scoring a goal in European Handball, junior Kristyn "T Slocum" Gentile making the tag for the last out of a playoff softball game, or senior Geoff Kelleman boxing out a football player twice his size on the basketball court, it's done in the name of Eric Stevens. Next time you are at the Soccer House for some John Daly, a game of Trashcan Football, or a night over with a wholesome college boy, take a look above the fireplace. There you'll see the legend himself on a poster, soda in hand, backwards hat, and of course the epic royal blue Kon Tiki t-shirt.





**Katz'**

**Korner**

Matt Katz

WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

## Two steps forward

Intramurals has been a great success this year, but there are a few accomplishments that mean more to the Intramural Directors than most. Perhaps atop on the list has been the emergence of the Women's Basketball program. For the past five weeks, anywhere between 10 and 25 players have shown up Sunday and Tuesday nights and enjoyed an hour of competitive basketball. The skill level varies significantly between the players, but all seem to thoroughly enjoy their time. Well last week, another step in the future of the IM Women's program was taken; another milestone achieved: for the first time, female players participated in the male basketball league.

Two freshman players, Renee Norton and Abby Sbat, have been two of the standouts all season in the Female league. Last week, after the weekly Tuesday night game for the girls, both players were asked to play in the B league of the men's league. Sbat played for the DTD team and Norton for the Tazorbacks squad.

To anyone who watched either game, it was clear

neither player was intimidated nor outmatched. Sbat quickly made her presence felt, demanding the ball from the outset of the game, and contributing as one of the leading scorers for the DTD squad. "She was still one of the best players on the court" commented senior scorekeeper Dano Dugan, "one of her crossovers was easily the highlight of the game."

Norton, whose team only had 5 players, was forced to play the entire game. With her team down 4 and under a minute to play, Norton buried what junior Buddy Cavalieri called "easily our team's biggest 3 of the season" to give the Tazorbacks a chance. The shot was wasted, however, when the Tazorbacks were upset that night. Both players were welcomed additions to their teams, and both players easily warranted another invitation to play in the next men's league game. Even freshman Mark "Coatesville" Mounayar, the archenemies to the women's basketball league, was impressed by the performances of Sbat and Norton.

## Kon Tiki: the legend behind the name

By D. E. Wayne

WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

As the many avid fans of the Katz' Korner have read over the past few weeks, there is an intramural basketball team named Kon Tiki.

Who and what exactly are Kon Tiki you may ask? Well for starters the Kon Tiki franchise not only competes in basketball but also handball and co-ed softball. The teams are mainly composed of members of the Muhlenberg men's soccer and golf teams. However, the roots of the name Kon Tiki go much further than the lines of Dietrich Fieldhouse. A journey beginning in Lebanon, NH and ending in Denver, CO can only begin to explain what Kon Tiki is all about.

Muhlenberg legend Eric Stevens moved into Prosser Hall as a promising men's lacrosse recruit in Aug. 2005. After four years as a standout athlete at Kimball Union Academy in New Hampshire, Eric decided to come to Muhlenberg to play lacrosse over a host of other colleges. Anyone lucky enough to know Eric realized that he was the absolute man. The epitome of college, Eric had a breakout freshman year, quitting lacrosse to hang out

seven nights a week and making sure if there was a soda party anywhere within the surrounding Muhlenberg community he was there, ready to go with drinking cup, backwards hat, and white sunglasses in hand. With all of the partying, Eric didn't have time for many other things. Class was one, but more importantly Eric did not have time to do much laundry. He did however, have one favorite t-shirt, which could be seen routinely on Eric, much to the joy of his close friends.

The Stevens family took a cruise to the Virgin Islands the summer before Eric's senior year of high school. Besides drinking buckets of refreshments as a 17 year old with 25 year old divas (paid for of course on Mr. Fred Stevens's credit card), Eric bought a t-shirt on that cruise. It was a royal blue t-shirt, with a white palm tree and white bubble letters spelling out the words "KON TIKI." This t-shirt remained close to Eric's heart for years, as it somehow magically remained the only clean shirt Eric could wear while playing Super Mario Strikers in Prosser 1225.

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## IM basketball triple-overtime thriller

By Matt Katz

WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

What a wild, wild week it's been for Intramural basketball. With the regular season winding down, teams are fighting neck

and neck for playoff position heading into next week's postseason. The biggest win of the week, and maybe of the season, was unquestionably Kon Tiki's triple-overtime, yes triple-overtime, victory over the previously undefeated Team Wish. In the matchup of the top two teams in the A division, these teams endured what had to be one of the greatest Intramural games in history. The shooting of senior Joe Gogel paced the Kon Tiki squad, while junior Brian Ward helped carry Team Wish. The game featured leads by both teams, unbelievable shooting, and an intensity rarely matched in the Intramural community. In the end Kon Tiki was simply too much, as senior Billy Dalton's tough overtime play and senior Greg Lesichner's ferocious rebounding were more than the exhausted Team Wish team could handle. The loss was Team Wish's first of the season, and their first loss to a team not named Kalamazoo in the past 3 years. Team Wish and Kon Tiki are now tied atop the A League standings with 1 loss a piece.

Following the marathon between Wish and Kon Tiki, the FootBallers

met Team Seidt in the west-coast game, beginning at roughly 11:15 at night. Led by sophomore Mike Katz's defensive intensity, which was impressive to say the least, the FootBallers dominated from the start. With senior Brandon Doyle back in the lineup, after sitting out a number of games with contract disputes, the FootBallers appear to be hitting their peak exactly at the right time. The FootBallers, currently at 7-6, are in a three-team race for the third, fourth, and fifth playoff positions. Team Work currently holds the third position with an 8-5 mark, and the ManBearPigs are in sixth place with a 5-6 record, playing fewer games due to numerous forfeits. Team Seidt, Friedman, and MKFE round out the bottom three seeds heading into next week's single-elimination playoffs.

The Intramural playoffs begin on Monday. The anticipated schedule (which is of course subject to change) for the A league semifinals is to begin on Tuesday night at 10:30 in the field house, with the championship bout taking place tentatively Wednesday at 9:30 in Memorial Hall, which will, for a few hours, change to "The-Mecca of Intramural Sports Basketball."



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## Lady Mules honored with win

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

The Muhlenberg Lady Mules' Senior Night took place on Feb. 10th, honoring the four seniors on the basketball team that represented the team in a ceremony before the game. Players came onto the court with their parents and were given flowers to commemorate their service to the team.

Going into a "meaningless" game, with Muhlenberg having already clinched the top spot in the Centennial Conference, the Lady Mules came out with their 15th win of the season. The victim this time was Swarthmore, losing to the Lady Mules 78-55.

Up 44-31 at halftime, the Mules did not dominate, but they played stellar defense in order to shut down Swarthmore's top players.

Erin McSherry led Muhlenberg in scoring at halftime with ten points, 5

rebounds and a block. Senior Lauren Boyle had 8 points, 6 assists, and a steal to go along with her special night.

The second half was dominated by Muhlenberg, as the team put in all of their backups and freshmen by the end of the game in order to give them experience, in addition to resting their top players. Sophomore Kelly McKeon led the team in points with 18, while freshman Alex Chili was second with 16. Senior Erin McSherry ended the game with 14 points, 9 rebounds and 2 assists. McKeon also finished with 10 rebounds and 4 assists.

Muhlenberg is now 16-0 in the Centennial Conference. The Lady Mules will play two games before the playoffs begin, at Dickinson, and at Ursinus.3 Come out and show your support for our Conference Champion Mules.



Left: Senior Lauren Boyle rises above the Swarthmore competition; Right: Freshman Alexandra Chili continues to contribute to the Mules' winning efforts.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Top performances at a top-notch track meet

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Who says Friday the 13th brings bad luck? The Mules Track and Field Team debunked that superstition at the New York City Armory Invitational last Friday. The team sent 24 athletes to compete at one of the nation's top track facilities.

Distance runners David Chorney '09 and Bobby Torphy '11 posted ECAC-qualifying times in the mile (4:17) and 800 meters (1:57.03) respectively. Torphy joined juniors Brendan Kirk, Bill Ryan and freshman Peter Rice to post the second-fastest 4 x 400 meter relay time in school history (3:26:57). The 4 x 400 ensemble holds the first place spot on the Centennial Conference's current Top Ten list. On the women's side, freshman Jenna Schaffer finished posted the school's fourth best time in the 200

(27.29).

Chorney's Armory finish is a nice addition to his list of ECAC-qualifying performances. He qualified and set a new school record in the 1000 meter (2:30.73) at the DeSchriver Invitation at Lehigh, held Feb. 7. Jennifer Lynch claimed the same feat as Chorney at Lehigh. Her time of 3:07.16 moved her to the top of the school record books and qualified her for ECAC's.

The Mules have one more meet to go before the Centennial Conference championships, held Feb. 28 to Mar. 1. Both the women and men's teams have athletes on the Conference's current Top Ten list in nearly every event. The Track and Field Team competes next at the Keogh Invitation at Haverford this Friday.

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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009

# Jon Falk

## New Student Body President

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Mon. Feb. 23, 600 students cast their ballots for the next Student Body President. Both candidates, Jon Falk and Genna Goldner, had campaigned over a week for the opportunity to oversee and become the face of next year's Student Government. When the final votes were counted, the student body's consensus was clear: Falk defeated Goldner in a landslide.

During the campaign, both Falk and Goldner had preached change in Student Government; though Goldner sought more drastic modifications. Both were in agreement that more transparency was needed between Student Government and the Student Body. Where they seemed to differ most was how they ran their campaigns. Falk, who was endorsed by *The Weekly*, spoke more of optimistic visions for Student Government while Goldner tended to speak out against the current leadership.

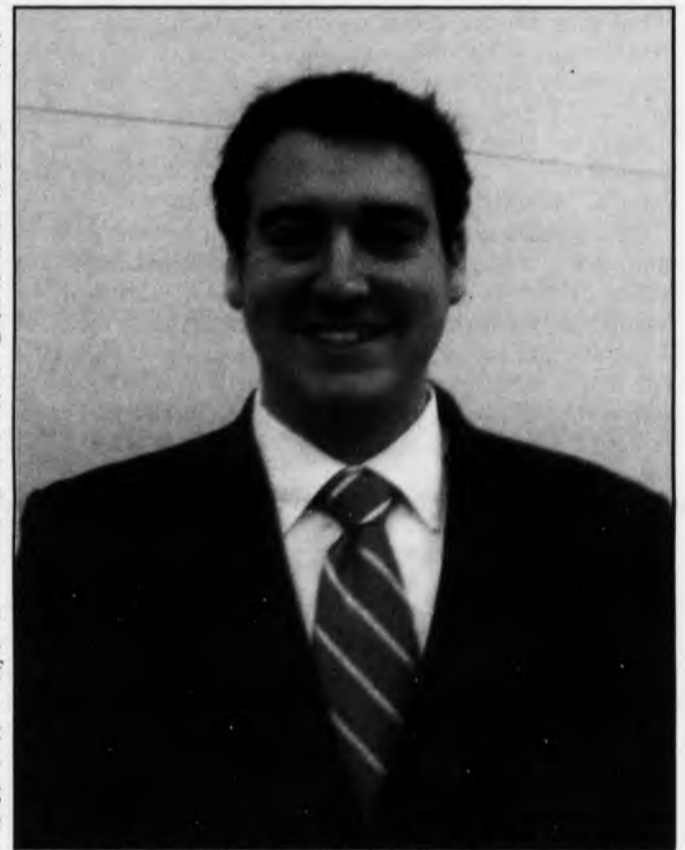
Another major factor in the election was experience, and the great divide between the two candidates in that aspect. Falk had been on Student Government for three years and is currently the Chairman of the Seegers Union and Dining Committee. He is also the President of Hillel and the founder of Mules United for Israel. He pledges to make Student Government his main priority as he will step down from both positions before he takes the gavel. Goldner, a sophomore,

was recalled by, and removed from Student Government earlier this year - an event that did not shine well on her.

Voting took place from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Seegers Union. Due to a technical difficulty, manual ballots had to be cast starting at 6:00 p.m. The glitch, combined with a member of the Election Committee having a time conflict, caused the announcement of the winner to be delayed over half an hour. Finally, just after 9:00 p.m., Chairman of the Election Committee and Vice-President of Student Government, Jordan Stones '10 posted a sheet of paper declaring Jon Falk the President-Elect. A number of sources with intimate knowledge of the election confirmed that Falk received 519 of 600 votes, or 86.5%.

Both Falk and Goldner witnessed the results being posted, and both shared a warm-hearted handshake and words of praise for each other. After the election, both President-Elect Falk and Goldner sat down with *The Weekly* for exclusive interviews. When asked what was running through his mind after the results were posted, Falk said, "I was very excited. But before I get into anything. I just want to thank everyone for coming out and voting, no matter who they

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President Elect Jon Falk believes that "it is fundamentally important that we become more of a governing body and less of a program body."

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

## S.T.A.N.D hosts Doctors Without Borders contributor Dr. Jerry Ehrlich

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

who gave a moving presentation about his experience in Darfur with Doctors Without Borders. S.T.A.N.D., which stands for "Students Taking Action Now: Darfur," was started this year by Jenny Bleznak '12 and Samantha Mangel '12. S.T.A.N.D. is a component of the Genocide Intervention Network, is student-run, and can be found on college campuses worldwide. "Our goal is to educate the College campus about the atrocities taking place in Darfur, and to ultimately promote action through fundraising, awareness events, and to educate younger students throughout the Lehigh Valley," the founders explained.

Dr. Ehrlich's talk marked the beginning of this education for S.T.A.N.D., as his presentation was the first campus event for the organization. Promotion of Dr. Ehrlich's visit began on Feb. 16, with the "Artwork for Awareness" display in the Center for the Arts Gallery. Over the course of

the following two days, students were exposed to the raw and moving drawings of children of Darfur that Dr. Ehrlich managed to collect during his two months on site. He also brought back over one hundred photographs, which, along with the drawings, were not legally permitted to leave the country.

The realization that the photos in the Dr. Ehrlich's slide show were obtained at severe risk to the doctor captivated an audience of students and faculty alike on Wed. night. After an introduction by Bleznak and Mangel, Dr. Ehrlich modestly took to the microphone and began his story.

Forty-two years of experience as a pediatrician in Cherry Hill, New Jersey made Dr. Ehrlich a prime candidate for the Doctors without Borders program. His interest was spurred from a 1991 *New York Times* article that explained how the program provides medical supplies to communities in need. "I felt that [the program] needed to be a part of my life," Dr. Ehrlich said.

After a speedy interview in Paris

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## Feels like spring to us

Is it just us, or does Spring Break come faster and faster every year? It seems like we just began semester number two, and now it's already time to pack our bags and take a breather. It's just too bad it doesn't feel like spring outside.

For seniors, this may be a last hurrah. Off to the working world for some of us, and we are fairly sure our employers won't be thrilled when we request a week off for some fun in the sun. So, we want to make this Spring Break count.

But that doesn't necessarily mean going crazy. Yes, Spring Break is a time for us college kids to blow off some steam, but there are other ways than simply drinking ourselves into a stupor every night, and sleeping all day. Take some of our very own student organizations, for example. Habitat for Humanity is traveling to Statesville, NC, Hillel is doing community service in New Orleans, and the Lutheran Student Movement is going to Washington, D.C.

We applaud those who have decided to use their Spring Break as an opportunity to help others, and we know that their efforts and hard work will be extremely rewarding. That kind of hard work (community service) is completely worthwhile and important. Another kind of work, homework, is not acceptable. Put down your books, and relish time away from them. You may not be spending the week helping others, but please try to at least help yourself. Please, please don't spend break on Facebook. There have to be better, more exciting things to do...that involve traveling, reading, moving, educating...playing.

Be safe, and don't do anything that is just plain stupid. You know what we mean. Not to sound like your parents, but don't drink and drive, find yourself somewhere you don't want to be, or even forget your sunblock.

We envy those of you going to exotic places, but also know that sometimes going home can be the best break from the stress of college life. So whether your Spring Break consists of bumming at home with your family, tanning on a beach somewhere warm, or for those go-getters, an alternate Spring Break, make sure to enjoy yourself.

# Why go green?

By Jennifer Lavelle  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

We constantly hear about the daunting threats of large-scale, complex environmental problems, such as climate change, which can seem abstract and distant from our everyday lives. EnAcT wants to educate and empower the student body to understand how we can make a positive impact by adopting small and manageable changes in our regular routines. We would like to take this opportunity to explain and clarify why we are undertaking our current campaigns.

Tray-free Tuesdays are an effort to reduce food waste and save water in the Garden Room. One hundred and nine campuses served by Sodexo have echoed our sentiments by implementing similar endeavors. Sodexo reported that going tray-free results in a 60% reduction in food waste per person and saves about 0.5 gallons of water per tray. It also conserves energy by reducing the amount needed to heat the water to wash the trays. While some may view this measure as a slight inconvenience, we feel that the benefits far outweigh the costs and merit an effort on the part of the campus community.

A second major focus this semester has been the Just Tap It campaign, an effort to replace disposable water bottles on campus with more sustainable options. This endeavor began in Dr. Lora Taub's Environmental Communication course last spring, and has since been endorsed by Student Government, the Greening Committee, EnAcT, and 1,081 petition signatories from the College community. Not only are we paying \$1.29 for 20 ounces of water that we could be getting for free, but there are environmental impacts and social justice issues to consider. The manufacture and transport of a 20 ounce bottle of water requires 5 ounces of oil, which significantly contributes to global climate change. Additionally, 90% of the billions of disposable water bottles consumed annually by Americans are not recycled and end up in landfills. In regards to the quality of the water we consume, tap water is subject to more stringent governmental standards than bottled water.

In the context of these campaigns and many others, we strive to represent the environmental interests of a broader group than just our organization's membership. The goal of these campaigns is to foster a greater sense of personal responsibility as a student, consumer, and global citizen. As always, we welcome and encourage an open dialogue about your thoughts on these issues. Please feel free to contact us via e-mail at [enact@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:enact@muhlenberg.edu) or attend our weekly meetings at 8:30 P.M. in the Red Door Café.

# A letter to President Falk

By Ian Costello  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Dear Mr. Falk,  
With your new position as Student

Body President, you walk a precarious line between the defunct Student Government and the seemingly unaffected Student Body. During your term it is most important, and in my mind should be your main priority, to reconcile this problem. No one better understands the intended procedures and processes (Robert's Rules) by which our Student Government should run, and it is rare to find someone so "among the people" as I think that you are. I would thus ask you to continue with these pursuits in the goal of reengaging the Student Body and revitalizing the aspects of the Student Government that have failed its constituents.

The student body is a powerful base of ideas and skills, but the Student Government has circumvented them for some odd reason. There seems to be a fear in the government, a fear that no one can define and no one will recognize. I do not know if this fear stems from last year's debacle or if it is a genuine fear that the Student Body will discover how incompetent the Student Government really is. Regardless, I hope that you will lead with an unprecedented transparency

that will prove the later speculation false. In my mind there is nothing to hide. All governments have problems and if we recognize them, then perhaps the genius minds of this campus can help to fix them.

In regards to better getting the message out about what Student Government is up to, I would suggest a constituency districting policy. In this way, the Class Representatives only have a few people for which they are directly responsible. The Reps would be responsible and held accountable for talking to each of their constituents about the projects and ideas of Student Government and then would garner feedback and new ideas from the students. I have brought this up in the past, but the question of how to divide the "districts" was always the problem. I have thought about this for a few months now and have come to this conclusion. If the "districts" were divided by club, major, residence or other types of common interest groupings then the Reps will become lobbyists for that group and will lose their true nature as a Student Rep. Thus, I am suggesting a less tangible division like last name, birthday or something along those lines. The first option would allow for more streamlined representation but some people will be left

out. The latter system is a bit of a shotgun blast where Reps might have to bring many conflicting ideas to the table, but that is their job and it includes everyone.

In an article you published right before we left for winter break, in reference to a certain activist on campus, you said essentially that, one person was simply one person and therefore should not be taken into consideration, and that they were not representative of anyone. When I read that article I was enraged. I began writing an article comparing your argument to fascist ideology, but never finished it because I imagined they would never print it. I challenge you, in this term of office, to be more open-minded and to realize that we are all only one person and that as such we represent ourselves. That is all we have and that is democracy. As Student Body President it is no longer your job to discern what is what, but to lead the policy dictated by the Student Body and implemented by the Student Government. This is not a position of power, but one of servitude. No one owes you anything. The votes have already been cast and now you owe everything to us, the Student Body, the constituency that elected you, made up of many individuals, all representing only one person: ourselves.



# Obama is ruining the economy

By Matthew Coughlin  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

This past Thur., there was a brilliant article written on RealClearMarkets.com titled "The Market Is Shorting Obama's 'Stimulus'." The article was written by George Bittlingmayer and Thomas W. Hazlett, who are both prestigious professors of economics and very well-known social Libertarians.

The article, in short, outlines the downfall of the American economy along side the different actions the Obama administration has taken to correct it. The article sums up its main point by saying, "from Nov. 4, 2008 through Feb. 12, 2009, the [Dow Jones Industrial Average] overall fell 18% -- a larger drop than during the Sept.-Oct. plunge [under the Bush administration]. In January, when the Obama plan, promising far greater deficits than the two much smaller 'emergency stimulus' plans signed by President George W. Bush in 2008, was unveiled and the market tanked -- the worst

January performance in 113 years."

I suggest that all Muhlenberg students read this article and become familiar with the fact that Barack Obama is very quickly turning bad economic times into extremely long and horrible economic times. The method in which Obama is turning this economy downward is through massive, irrational, and wasteful government spending. This past week Obama signed the largest government spending bill in American history.

Aside from the fact that this bill is riddled with pork, was rushed through Congress, and was just hastily signed by the least experienced President in American history, this bill has historical precedent (i.e., the New Deal) that already declares it unsuccessful.

It is troubling for me to see that Muhlenberg students do not understand how damaging this bill will be. First, let's get a grasp on how large this bill is and how much larger it's going to grow. If we were to spend one million dollars a day since the birth of Jesus Christ, we still would not have enough money

to completely pay for this bill. This bill already costs more than every military war America has fought COMBINED.

Next, let's understand how much this bill will cost the American people. According to the Heritage Foundation (askheritage.org), this bill will increase the outstanding Government debt by more than half in just two years, adding \$3.5-\$4 trillion to the already \$6.4 trillion in debt. Finally, it's a well-known fact that 60% of the money that's set in this bill to "stimulate" will not reach the public until late 2010-2011. This is really interesting because Obama will already be campaigning for re-election by the time the money is reaching a select few of the public. So much for getting rid of pesky "politics as usual".

I want the Muhlenberg community to wake up and realize that Barack Obama is not "change," but is more of the same. On the campaign trail Obama said he would get rid of government waste. Consider this: Obama claimed on the cam-

paign trail that he would post all bills online five days before they would be voted on. The stimulus bill must have been an exception, however, because it was posted at 11 p.m. the day before it was voted on. In fact, for every Senator to have read the entire bill they would have had to read over 2.5 pages a minute before they voted on it. Another troubling sign is that lobbyists got a copy of the bill before anybody on Capitol Hill, including Congressional staff. These antics are horrifying!

With everything from lying to the public with campaign rhetoric, to human rights issues (as outlined by former ACLU president Nadine Strossen who spoke at Muhlenberg last week), Barack Obama has taken the same side as the Bush

administration or worse. The public needs to wake up and realize that elections have consequences, and unfortunately for Muhlenberg students, we will be paying off these consequences for the rest of our lives.

*Barack Obama is very quickly turning bad economic times into extremely long and horrible economic times.*

*If we were to spend one million dollars a day since the birth of Jesus Christ, we still would not have enough money to completely pay for this bill.*

## The GQ experience

By Jordan Blumenthal & Benjamin Portney  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITERS

You walk through the double doors; make your way past the Garden Room and up the short flight of stairs. First, you get bombarded by the table of events when all you really want to do is grab something to eat before class. I'd rather not have to take a survey on sexual positions and how salty semen tastes while I eat my fried feast. After dodging all the survey hecklers, you immediately prepare yourself to walk the runway. By the runway, I mean receiving the "G.Q. Stare."

The "G.Q. Stare" is a phrase my roommate Ben and I devised to explain the hundreds of curious stares from the already situated Mules as you walk towards the food. Instead of bowing our heads in discomfort, Ben and I make a game to see how many people we catch glimpsing at us. Once you walk through the walkway, you are immediately hit by a wall of humid, greasy, warm air, provided by the fryer, and makes hit you to jump into a shower. You then walk towards the fryer line but become confused with which line is for sandwiches and which is for the grill. At first you hesitate, then you awkwardly ask the person in front of you which line they're in. After basking in the greasy air, you finally get to the front of the line and are greeted by the wonderful and welcoming phrase, "What do you want?" A slight nod of the head also is apparently a way to signal, "What do you want?" Then you get your food and whether you say "no fries" or "one bun," you tend to receive the opposite, if you receive anything at all. And don't get us started on the sandwiches. For some reason "Rye bread, tuna, and lettuce" is too hard to remember and must be broken down into three separate sentences.

Once you finally receive your hard-earned food, you are greeted with a huge line with one cashier working at prime lunch hour. Once you pay with your swipe card and always end up being over one swipe, you get to the condiment counter. You press the ketchup dispenser, which always seems to be empty and end up stuck with a handful of ketchup packets that lasts about three chicken fingers. You then hope that a booth is open so you can inhale your greasy goodness and you can also stare at the people on the runway. And that, my fellow Muhlenberg students, is the G.Q. EXPERIENCE.

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## The students were justified NYU was occupied!

By Alex Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

The progressive student movement at New York University boiled over last Wednesday into nonviolent civil disobedience. After two years of humble petitions, letters, and University Senate politicking, students failed to win greater transparency, tuition stabilization, and investment accountability to the ethics of the NYU community, particularly on issues of war, discrimination, and genocide.

The two-year old coalition called Take Back NYU! consists of 21 peace, justice, and multicultural organizations with thousands of members. They escalated their tactics away from the painful neglect of the NYU bureaucracy by occupying a cafeteria in the student center for 40 hours with about a hundred students, sit-in style. Their goals? To build their movement and finally have enough leverage to force the administration to respond to its students' grave concerns.

One specific demand was the establishment of a Socially Responsible Finance committee made up of faculty, students, and alumni, elected by students, to align NYU's budget and investing priorities with the ethical concerns of the community. For example, the SRF would pressure their mutual funds to drop investments from companies that make weapons like cluster bombs (Textron).

Thousands of students from all over the northeast came out with signs, instruments, banners, bullhorns, dance moves, and voices to rally outside of the building in support of the sit-in. Some slogans included "No tuition without representation!" "We shall not be moved!" "Make NYU affordable!" and a retro marching band-led chorus of "We're Not Gonna Take It" by Twisted Sister.

True to form, the administration refused to negotiate with the students as they have the past two years. Instead, they cut off outside food access, heat, internet, and power to the cafeteria. They enlisted fear tactics by calling the homes of the students and threatening expulsion. They encouraged NYU security and NYPD thugs to violently suppress attempts to peaceably assemble. They made clear what their vision for NYU looks like: mace, billy clubs, lies, and deception.

On the final day, second tier university officials ordered their NYU security thugs to kidnap five student negotiators and raid the sit-in, removing the students by force. The remaining 18 NYU students were suspended, banned from their dorms, and now risk expulsion. No discussion of the students' demands ever happened. President John Sexton made no statement or appearance.

To give their sit-in a context, NYU identifies as a "global university" with campuses in many countries including a new one being constructed in Abu Dhabi. Their endowment is about \$2.5 billion, the largest of any private university in the country, according to their student press.

I personally participated in the sit-in because I believe students who pay tuition, faculty who receive salary, and alumni who donate to a college in good faith should not have to participate in a system that does not hold itself accountable for the ethical impacts of its business and investments.

I sit on our Student Government's Socially Responsible Investing research committee, voted to endorse Muhlenberg's divestment from the Darfur genocide, and believe that student ethical concerns at Muhlenberg, like NYU, have been stifled.

Student Body President-elect Jon Falk supports the creation of a Socially Responsible Investing Committee at Muhlenberg. Almost a month ago he praised the idea at a Student Government meeting by noting how the Shoah, or Holocaust, could have been stopped by divestment from the companies that profited from it.

I hope that we can see a quick establishment of an SRI committee here and that President Helm will back off his opposition to it which was expressed to me in a meeting last week. I take seriously my tuition's sponsorship of unethical, violent, and destructive behavior. Tell your Student Government representatives and club leaders to support this effort and contact me to join a coalition around this issue.

## Who's the victim?

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Within the last several years, America has gained notoriety for being hooked on lawsuits. There seems to be a never-ending supply of ridiculous, frivolous legal suits. There are people suing because they were burnt by coffee, became obese due to a diet rich in junk food, and even because a thief was injured while in the process of robbing someone's home. In addition to these cases, there has been tons of legal action on behalf of illegal immigrants. Yes, non-citizens are suing Americans. This is outright insulting and despicable.

Two weeks ago, a story broke that noted an American rancher being sued by a group of 16 illegal aliens. The Arizona resident, Roger Barnett, has been sued by these aliens for "civil rights violations, the infliction of emotional distress and other crimes." The case was brought by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF). Of course Mr. Barnett was accused of being completely in the wrong. The aliens are playing the victim game in order to make a profit of \$32 million. They accuse him of holding them captive at gunpoint. They are crying injustice at the hands of some evil American, but what gives them the right to cross our Southern border illegally and trespass on someone's private property? It is Roger Barnett's land! Last time I checked, property owners have a right to protect their land. It is not surprising that the illegals are not familiar with our Constitution, but maybe we should fill them in on the Second

Amendment which grants all American citizens the right to carry firearms. MALDEF and their clients are concocting an illusion where Mr. Barnett is running a "detention camp" of illegal immigrants and holding them against their will. This is a case of a man being wrongfully accused. The group of illegal aliens conveniently forgot to mention that Mr. Barnett's property has been a hot spot for border crossing for 10 years. He has had to deal with illegal aliens destroying water pumps and fences, vandalizing his property, killing his cattle, breaking into his home, and leaving 10 inch deep piles of feces and garbage all across the ranch. Also, Mr. Barnett has a proven record to show that he transfers any illegal alien to the United States Border Patrol. Those 16 immigrants are abusing Roger Barnett and our legal system.

This whole case should take a 180 degree turn. The illegal immigrants should be the ones on trial and answering to the American people. They should be paying reparations to Barnett and all of the other border townspeople who have felt threatened by undocumented aliens hopping the border.

Isn't it great to be in the United States? We can sue and make millions of dollars for any silly reason. Our country is so appealing that even illegal aliens are jumping on board. It is not the job of our citizens to make the border a pleasant entry point. Why should Roger Barnett apologize for protecting his family and frankly, our country? As far as Americans are concerned, we should be grateful to people like Roger Barnett. My hat goes off to you sir.

## "MuhlSpan:" the new C-SPAN

By Matthew Cobaugh  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

At the beginning of the semester, MCTV proposed a brilliant plan to the Muhlenberg Student Government. The plan was to film and broadcast the Student Government meetings. Before I cover the details of the plan, allow me to explain the rationale and steps that lead us to this point.

When I first arrived at Muhlenberg this spring I was prepared to go extra lengths to make friends and become involved and acclimated to the Muhlenberg community as quickly as possible, if nothing more than for the reason I had lost a year and a semester of time on this campus. Within the first week I walked around campus and read every public announcement and sign that was displayed, looking for clubs I might be interested in. MCTV was one such club. I attended their first meeting and was surprised to find how lax and comfortable the executive board of MCTV was with new and fresh ideas for programming on MCTV (channel 21). The same week I went to the first MCTV meeting, I went to the Student Government meeting. After sitting through the Student Government meeting, many of the members had expressed much concern over student awareness of their activities. The general impression was that Student Government was not receiving credit (where it was due) for their involvement in campus. As a result, students were

losing faith in the Student Government they elected.

Upon the realization that student involvement and Student Government's recognition for their effort on campus was a major issue, my mind instantly jumped to MCTV. Here, I thought, would be a perfect time to exemplify inter-club involvement and correct the issues students have with Student Government. Furthermore, the recording of Student Government meetings will merely foster more student involvement in their government. With all these realizations at hand, I proposed the recording of Student Government meetings to the body, and they formed a committee to research the possibility of broadcasting their meetings on a network that will be called "MuhlSpan."

All Muhlenberg students should email their class representatives and ask them to vote "yes" to the recording of Student Government meetings. There are, in fact, no negatives to this initiative. Only the very best can come from recording a government at work. The recording allows for extreme oversight, and involvement in all aspects of the governing process. Just imagine where the federal government would stand if there was no CNN, CNBC, ABC, FOX, MSNBC, or no media outlets at all. Even C-SPAN serves a major purpose. Again, I charge all Muhlenberg students to email their class representatives and request that they vote "yes" to MuhlSpan.



**DARFUR | FROM PAGE 1**

and a subsequent year spend in Sri Lanka, Dr. Ehrlich arrived in Darfur, Sudan in 2004. This information was followed by a photograph of signs that could be found throughout the area, flags that read "peace and unity" in English as a way of telling western audiences that everything in Darfur was just fine. "My take on this," the doctor explained, "was a joke. Nothing but a cruel joke."

According to a statement then released by the Sudanese government, "people are living well and are well fed" in Darfur. But, in fact, the very same government had bombed over nine hundred villages in Darfur, which has been called the first genocide of the twenty-first century. People are malnourished and living in the poorest conditions. And Dr. Ehrlich had the controversial photographic evidence to prove it.

During his two months spend providing medical aid in Darfur, Dr. Ehrlich developed a system in which he would sneak away once a day to take pictures in one of the many local "halma," or displaced persons', camps. These camps were filled with endless shabby huts that served as the only place to call home for thousands of residents of Darfur. In June of 2004, the population of these camps was an estimated 30,000 people. At the end of Dr. Ehrlich's stay in Darfur that July, the population had escalated to about 60,000. As of recently, the New York Times estimated that this population has easily exceeded 100,000 people.

The bulk of Dr. Ehrlich's time was spent in one of only eight medical centers, a small ward that received an estimated 200 patients a day. Along with numerous heart-wrenching pictures of

scarily thin children and mothers suffering from post-traumatic stress, he explained his daily work with an incredibly small staff of two local doctors whom he trained and a few nurses with whom he did everything possible to keep the sick children alive. Especially difficult were the cases of extreme malnourishment, in which it would take three to four weeks of treatment before a child would begin to gain weight.

Upon leaving the medical center, Dr. Ehrlich would provide children with paper and crayons and ask them to draw him a picture of what they would like him to remember about their lives in Darfur. By the end of his time in the country, he had 157 pieces of children's artwork that he was able to bring back to the United States by hiding them inside a thick copy of the New York Times.

The drawings were more than just memorabilia, as he had told the children, but served as a telling insight into the lives of the people in Darfur. "Again and again, pictures of violence," Dr. Ehrlich explained of the drawings, one of which is pictured below as it was displayed in the Gallery. Each drawing depicted soldiers with guns, bombs, and other destructive items burning down houses with people still inside, shooting people, and even dropping bombs on villages from helicopters or airplanes.

Since Dr. Ehrlich brought these pictures back to the United States, they have been cause for uproar. Newspapers across the country have presented them in front page stories about the terrors of Darfur, further promoting the need for aid. Dr. Ehrlich has done presentations like the one here at the College across the country, and has even been told by the Sudanese government to stop distribution of the pictures, but he con-

tinues to tell his story and the story of Darfur.

Despite the countless tragedies he witnessed and shared during his presentation, Dr. Ehrlich ended his slide show on a happy note. With a picture of a smiling, grateful mother leaving the medical ward with her healthy child on the screen behind him, the doctor explained the rewards of participating in a program like Doctors without Borders. The local doctors he helped train wanted to take pictures with him before he left so that they could always remember his kindness. Even the simple smile of a mother was enough to make the difficult trip worthwhile. "He who saves a life saves the world," Dr. Ehrlich said, quoting the Old Testament, and with a gesture to the photograph behind him, "this is what I want to remember - their hope."

In the following question and answer session, Dr. Ehrlich provided more details about his journey and offered advice on how students can contribute to this meaningful cause. He urged that students call 1-800 GENOCIDE and leave a message for President Obama, showing their knowledge of the events in Darfur and that they want something to be done.

On campus, students can help by contributing to S.T.A.N.D. and their future events. Currently they are selling "Smoke the Janjaweed, Save Darfur" T-shirts, which promote the demise of the Sudanese government and its attacks on Darfur. T-shirts are 10 dollars and all proceeds from this and other S.T.A.N.D. fundraisers and events go to Doctors without Borders as well as other organizations directly associated with the Save Darfur Coalition. For more information or to get more involved, contact Jenny Bleznak at [BergSTAND@gmail.com](mailto:BergSTAND@gmail.com).



Dr. Jerry Ehrlich captivated a crowd of students and teachers alike with his personal story and a powerpoint of photographs.

PHOTO BY HEATHER SCHLOSS



The Center for the Arts Gallery presented this violent drawing among many others created by children of Darfur.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

# New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

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# Former ACLU President evaluates Obama's promise of change

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

On Tues., Feb. 17, the Center for Ethics hosted Nadine Strossen, who had a message for the students who filled Moyer's Miller Forum.

"Conviction without action," she said, "is meaningless." Strossen, the first woman to head the American Civil Liberties Union, would know. The former ACLU president has seen more than her fair share of human rights struggles brought to the Supreme Court. The ACLU is the nation's largest and oldest civil liberties organization and from 1991-2008, Strossen served as the organization's first female president.

Strossen is a Professor of Law at New York Law School and has lectured and practiced extensively in the subjects of constitutional law, civil liberties, and international human rights. She is a talented author, speaker, lawyer and professor who has committed herself to using the law as a means to protect American civil liberties.

She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard College in 1972 and magna cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1975. At Harvard Law, she was an editor of the Harvard Law Review. She then practiced law for nine years in New York City. Some of her most prominent accomplishments include being twice named one of

"The 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America" by the *National Law Journal*, releasing over 250 publications and being included in *Vanity Fair's* "America's 200 Most Influential Women."

Strossen has lectured on over 500 college campuses, and has also spoken about legal issues in the national media on almost every national news program. On Tuesday she said that now it's up to President Barack Obama to follow the course of change and justice that his campaign platform promised.

*"Strossen's speech...discussed Obama's commitment to change, and reflected on past and present milestone cases fought*

"We have many opportunities for change, many needs and challenges for change," said Strossen, addressing a modest crowd of students and Lehigh Valley residents.

Strossen's speech, entitled "President Obama and the Supreme Court," discussed Obama's commitment to change, and reflected on past and present milestone cases fought by the

ACLU. She turned much of her focus to human rights violations resulting from former president George W. Bush's post-9/11 policies.

Policies stemming from legislation such as the 2001 Patriot Act have violated "the most egregious of human rights issues," said Strossen. The act has received heavy criticism for policies that allegedly allowed torture of military detainees and secret surveillance of citizens.

The ACLU challenged Bush's claim that a lawsuit against secret surveillance would violate the government's "State Secrets" privilege. The

ACLU is currently appealing the February 2008 dismissal of their lawsuit against the CIA's use of this surveillance, as well as the Extraordinary Rendition program allowing for apprehension and transfer of suspected terrorists.

Strossen then spoke of Obama's efforts to turn the tables around on post-9/11 human rights violations.

"One of his first executive orders was more transparency in government," Strossen said.

Strossen encouraged her audience, many of whom had voted in their first-ever presidential election this November, to do their part by engaging in local activism.

Change "originates at the grassroots level, at the community level," she said. Strossen noted the particular case of Richard Hookway, a Spring City, Pennsylvania resident who was arrested and charged for videotaping police officers in public places in 2007. The ACLU took on the case. Strossen graciously quoted Hookway, stating: "I felt I had to stand up for my rights as everyone should, but not enough people do. Police need to know that they also have to follow the law, and that we are citizens, not subjects."

Strossen's reference to Hookway exemplified her point that, despite the Supreme Court's sparse acceptance of cases, citizens outside of the courtroom *can* make a difference.

"The Supreme Court doesn't have the final word. They can make the final decision, but so can we," Strossen said. "We the people have amended the constitution."

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Rain	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy
High: 50 Low: 26	High: 38 Low: 26	High: 37 Low: 25

## Feb. 19 Sudoku Answers

9	4	3	2	7	6	8	1	5
5	7	2	1	8	4	6	9	3
8	1	6	3	9	5	2	4	7
2	3	1	9	6	8	5	7	4
6	5	7	4	1	3	9	2	8
4	9	8	7	5	2	1	3	6
1	2	5	8	3	7	4	6	9
7	6	4	5	2	9	3	8	1
3	8	9	6	4	1	7	5	2

# Student Government helps study abroad students find housing

By Cameron Webb  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Last Thurs., Student Government announced its plans to launch a web-based program that will help students who plan to study abroad find Muhlenberg housing for the semester in which they are on campus. The program, which will be called the "Study Abroad Housing Matchmaker," was conceptualized by Jason Steinberg '11. Steinberg, who was appointed last April by the Government to serve as a student observer to the Board of Trustees, partnered with members of the Student Government Technology Committee to design and implement the program within a three week time frame.

The system will allow students to create profiles in which they can specify the semester that they will need housing. Jordan Sones '10, Student Government Vice President said, "Our hope is that the system will help to take the stress out of finding a place to live during the student's semester at the College. For example, a student who plans to go abroad in the fall could indicate the semester in which they will be abroad so that other students can arrange to fill their vacancy." Along with being able to designate when they are going abroad, they can also specify how many spots they need, and where they would like to live.

Student Government will be launching the Study Abroad Housing Matchmaker on Mar. 10.

**PRESIDENT | FROM PAGE 1**

voted for. It's fundamentally important for the campus to be involved in the democratic process. It's important that it's not two sides of Chew Street, but that it involves multiple facets of campus. In addition, I want to thank Genna [Goldner]. She's great and ran a strong campaign. I know that we stand on opposite sides of the aisle at lot of times, but I look forward to working with her in the future and finding common ground."

Falk then discussed what he plans to accomplish as President of Student Government. "You can take this in two directions. First, in the direction of what gets done within the Government and secondly, what will be done as voice of the whole Student Body. I'd like to respond to both. As head of the Government, I will work towards making the Government more efficient, more effective, more transparent, and more accountable. It is fundamentally important that we become more of a governing body and less of a program body. On the other front, as a student leader, I am looking more at little things on campus because little things make the great things great."

When asked why he thought voters voted for him, Falk responded with one word, "Vision." Expounding upon his "vision" Falk said, "We can't get

stuck in the present, we must look towards the future. I hope students who read this article remember that I am not just the President, but the President of the people."

In every race there is a winner. Unfortunately there must be someone who comes up short as well; this time it was Ms. Goldner. Displaying self-confidence and maturity beyond her years, she put aside any personal emotions and feelings of disappointment to talk to the Weekly. Asked about her reaction to the loss, Goldner said, "It was a good fight. My group and I did the best we could campaign and Jon did an excellent job too and that what it really all comes down to."

Goldner displayed cautious confidence in Falk's abilities as Student Government President. "Jon made a lot of practical suggestions and I hope he follows through and that they weren't just empty promises." Goldner says she plans to run for 2011 Class President and affect change from that position.

Falk will assume his new position as Student Body President on April 2. On that day, current Student Government President, Sara Keller '10 will hand the gavel to the new President. Until then, he will have to get used to the title, President-Elect Jon Falk.

## Moravian wins Chef's Fair!



On Wed., Feb 18, Garden Room was host to the annual Chef's Fair, in which chefs from the dining halls of nearby schools bring their best dishes to compete for the title of "Favorite Chef." In attendance were chefs from Muhlenberg College, Moravian College, DeSales University, Lehigh University, and Lafayette College. Each school provided an assortment of dishes for students to indulge in and choose which dishes they liked best. Always an eventful night for students, the line to get into Garden Room was well out the door as early as 4:30. Students were given tickets upon entering in order to vote for their favorites upon finishing their overflowing plates. Pictured above are Jennifer Neumann '11 and Alana Lerer '11 casting their votes in support of the College, which came in second by a mere seven votes. In the fierce competition, Moravian emerged victorious.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA



## Student Government sponsors academics fair

For the first time in five years, Student Government will be hosting academics fair. The goal of the event, according to Chairperson of the Academics Committee Angela Lucci '09, is to help students find out about programs they may not know about. Said Lucci, "It's a great resource for undeclared students to talk to professors to help decide what they might want to focus their studies on." Originally, the fair was canceled five years ago due to poor turnout. Lucci said the idea for reviving the fair came from a Freshman last year who said they would like such an event to help determine what fields of studies. She says planning for the Academics Fair began last July as she met bi-weekly with Dean Wilson. The Academics Fair will be hosted on Mon. Mar. 9 from 5 to 7 P.M. in the Great Room.

*Information courtesy of Angela Lucci*

## Waltz With Bashir provides educational experience

On Sat. Feb. 21, the Muhlenberg Student Activities Office (MSA) purchased fifty tickets from the Civic Theater of Allentown for a showing of the Israeli documentary *Waltz With Bashir*. The tickets were distributed for free to students who wanted to attend. MSA Events Associate, Adrian Shanker '09 said "This was part of an initiative to get students into the West End of Allentown more, in the hopes that they will continue to explore some of the cultural opportunities throughout the city." Following the screening of *Waltz With Bashir*, David Furman, Hillel Activities Director, led a half-hour discussion forum that allowed the audience to learn more about the film and events surrounding it, in addition to providing an avenue for them to air their opinions on the film.

*Information courtesy of Adrian Shanker*

## Campus Safety Notes

Feb. 16 - Found Property - A wallet with money, credit cards, and driver's license all inside was found on the Prosser driveway. Items were placed into the evidence lockers. Messages were left to notify owner to pick up the items at Campus Safety.

Feb. 16 - Vandalism to Vehicle - In Seegers Union, upper level, there was a report of side view glass mirror stolen from a vehicle sometime overnight. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 16 - Sick Student - There was a report of a sick student with pain at the Village, Building 5, second floor. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were notified. Parent took the student to the hospital.

Feb. 16 - Injured Student - In the Life Sports Center, a reporting party called about a student with an eye injury. Muhlenberg College EMS and Health Center were notified. Student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 17 - Found Property - A reporting party dropped off a small sledgehammer that was found on campus. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Feb. 18 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In Benfer Hall, a fire alarm activated in the second floor laundry room. The Campus Safety office was unable to reset it. An officer stated that the room was hot and the fan was not working properly. Plant Operations was notified to respond. Simplex responded.

ed. The system was silenced and reset with no further incident.

Feb. 18 - Found Property - In the Life Sports Center field house a phone was found that has been there since Saturday. No one has come to claim it. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Feb. 18 - Lost Property - In Brown Hall, first floor, there was a report of a lost wallet containing Muhlenberg College ID and driver's license. The reporting party called back a few minutes later to say that the wallet was found.

Feb. 18 - Hit and Run - On Chew Street, a student reported that a car was hit with scratches on the side of the car sometime before midnight on Feb. 17. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 18 - Lost Property - In Seegers Union, upper level, a student reported losing their wallet containing driver's license, ID cards, and other cards.

Feb. 19 - Found Property - In Prosser Hall Main, basement, a wallet was found with ID and room key. A message was left for the owner to pick it up at Campus Safety.

Feb. 19 - Institutional Vandalism - In Benfer Hall, first floor, there was a report of vandalism to dryer #5. It looks like someone tried to pry open the machine and on dryer #6, the pipe vent has been disconnected. Reporting party unplugged

the unit and Housing was notified to put in service call to correct the problems.

Feb. 19 - Sick Employee - In Seegers Union, upper level, there was a report of a sick employee. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the employee was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 20 - Motor Vehicle Accident - In the Martin Luther parking lot, an officer reported that while driving a vehicle, they backed into one of the parked vans. There was no damage to the van. There was slight damage reported to driver's vehicle.

Feb. 20 - Lost Property - In the Life Sports Center a lost ID was found in the gym yesterday.

Feb. 20 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost ID somewhere on campus. Dispatcher deactivated the card. An individual working at the Life Sports Center desk approximately an hour later returned the card to the owner. No further incident has been reported.

Feb. 20 - Found Property - An officer picked up a driver's license that was at the Life Sports Center desk. The officer was unable to identify the owner as being affiliated with Muhlenberg College. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Feb. 20 - Lost Property - In the Life Sports Center, an iPod was lost sometime this week.

Feb. 20 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transport - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, an officer went to the room to check and see if a non-student/underage individual was in room per request of reporting party. Upon arrival in plain view were opened and empty bottles/cans of alcohol. Officer requested Allentown Police Department to be called. Allentown Police took custody of juvenile and arrested for underage consumption. Letters of trespass issued to the non-students involved. Referred to Judicial.

Feb. 21 - Suspicious Person - In Martin Luther Hall, first floor, a reporting party called to report a tall blonde male who had a partial case of beer and was wandering through the halls. This person left behind a partial case of beer. Person later found on the Front Drive area and it was verified this person was visiting a student who resides on campus. Alcohol was placed in our evidence lockers and the individual was allowed to leave campus. No further incident was reported. A letter of trespass was issued.

Feb. 21 - Suspicious Activity - At an off campus, non-college owned area on 24 Street, juveniles were found with stolen property. The incident was handled by Allentown Police Department.

Feb. 22 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and

Transport - At 2201 Chew Street, there was an alcohol violation and on the third floor, there was a stolen table found. Referred to Judicial.

Feb. 22 - Sick Employee - In Seegers Union, there was a sick employee. EMS responded. The employee refused further treatment.

Feb. 22 - Sick Student - In Brown Hall, there was a report of a sick student. EMS and the Health Center were notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 22 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2243 Liberty Street, a fire alarm sounded caused by burnt popcorn.

Feb. 23 - Sexual Assault - On campus, a sexual assault took place. The female was taken to the hospital. A memorandum was issued to the campus community on Feb. 23, "In compliance with The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990, the campus community should know that a student reported an alleged incident occurred in the early morning hours of Feb. 22. The incident occurred at an on campus location. The suspect is a non-student." The investigation will continue.

Feb. 23 - Vandalism - Institutional Vandalism - In the New Science Building, first floor, there was vandalism with paper towels up and down the hallways, garbage pails overflowing, and no toilet paper in the bathrooms.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"Life is just one damned thing after another."

- Elbert Hubbard

## Dancers present at Regional Conference

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Three new dance pieces are being presented by Muhlenberg at the American College Dance Festival Regional Conference. The works presented were choreographed by guest artist and professional choreographer Meredith Rainey, as well as Dana McGowan '10 and Olivia Wingerath '09. Including the dancers and choreographers of these pieces, twenty-four Muhlenberg students will attend the conference alongside four faculty members from Mar. 5 to Mar. 9 at Penn State University.

The national organization meets in ten regional conferences across the nation for classes, workshops, and performances. The centerpiece of each conference is a series of adjudicated concerts. The adjudication is blind, with judges only aware of the name of the piece and music. Judges are not even told if the piece was created by a student or professional. McGowan says, "The fact that my work will be showcased amongst choreographers is so exciting. I get to be an active part of it and also see what others are doing."

Rainey staged his new contemporary ballet titled "Before They Fall"

in the Master Choreographers concert. His piece is aggressive and modern, with the dancers on pointe, but not bound to a style of ballet that is dated or delicate. Dancers are clothed in shades of grey and white that fade across their bodies in costumes designed by Constance Case. His piece was theatrically presented in the Empie Theatre as black curtains gradually closed in and confined the dancers. His dancers include Scott Schneider '11, Shannen Curran '09, Barri DeFrancisci '12, Meghan Meehan '09, Lindsay Munz '10, Erika Samsky '11, Mary Jean Stack '11. Rainey is a guest choreographer currently with Ballet X, and brings his experiences at Pennsylvania Ballet and Dance Theatre of Harlem among many famous international companies and choreographers to the work he did with the Muhlenberg dancers.

Wingerath's trio entitled "Separating From Wood to Dust" is somewhat autobiographical and is set to the Radiohead song "Kid A." It will be presented at the conference's informal concert. The piece was created and first performed for the Fall showcase of student choreography *Moving Stories*, last November. Because of logistics, the

casts of the two student pieces have been readjusted for the festival. Wingerath's new cast for the piece includes Ashley Sleeth '11 and Meghan Meehan '09. Samantha Jonson '09 returns to dance in the trio. "This is the first time I've worked in a trio of girls, and I've enjoyed the different dynamic" said Jonson. "I felt included by Olivia at every step of the process. Her movement comes from personal experience and I got to learn more about her even though we've been friends for years."

McGowan's modern piece is set to music by Vitamin String Quartet. It is called "(in)decision" and was also presented in *Moving Stories*. McGowan says her piece has "an extreme music-choreo relationship. Sounds you wouldn't hear at first are accented with movement as they pop up. The music corresponds to the ways small things in your life work as you make decisions." Her cast for the conference presentation includes Laura Baehr '12, Kiera Bianchini '10, Samantha Jonson '09, Brittani Maglio '11, Michele Sasso '10, and Ashley Sleeth '11. Two of the dancers performing this piece in the conference are replacing students who went abroad. McGowan said, "Fortunately, the

replacement dancers were able to pick it up quickly; they were familiar with the work from seeing it in rehearsal and performance."

Student and faculty dance works are always well received at the conference. Last year, Professor Charles O. Anderson's all male African inspired modern choreography was chosen from the regional conference to be presented at the National Festival.

Professor Dearborn, Chair of the Dance Program, who will be attending with students, says that the benefits of attending are great. "Our students are able to see dancers from all colleges across the region; they see different technique levels, and different approaches and styles we don't do here." This exposure also pushes dancers to be more creative and innovative as they use their bodies to express themselves. Dearborn noted, "The most intense part of the conference is watching four concerts with approximately 40 works. Seeing them makes you question what dance is, what you like, and what you want your work to be."

Keep your eye out for the annual Spring student choreographer concert. *Dance Emerge* will be presented Apr. 16 to 19.

## Lessons from Studying Abroad

By Rachel Majkszak  
WEEKLY OP/ED EDITOR

You know you've all heard it before: studying abroad is a life changing experience. Everyone that has done it can't tell you this enough. And everyone that hasn't is tired of hearing it. But it's the truth. Spending a semester or year away from campus and outside of the Muhlenberg bubble teaches you so much more than you could learn in the classroom. My entire junior year was spent away from the College. In the fall, I studied at Royal Holloway University, just outside of London. My weekends were spent traveling from country to country or taking trips into London whenever I felt the urge. And I learned that the most difficult part of the study abroad experience is returning home.

Then I moved to Washington, DC where I learned the challenge that comes with working full time (and

then some) in a high stress environment. I learned how to deal with the "reverse culture shock" so often experienced by students after returning to America. I learned how to navigate the city and become just as unfriendly and disengaged as the rest of the DC commuters. And, much to my surprise, I learned that politics was not the career for me. My junior year was over, and I had had a year full of learning experiences.

But what I learned most of all is that Muhlenberg should not be taken for granted. Returning to a small campus after a year spent in Europe and in Washington, DC was difficult, to say the least. I felt myself longing for weekend jaunts to European cities and the exciting life that comes with living in the District. But here I was, the fall of senior year of college, back in Allentown, Pennsylvania on a campus of 2,000 students, after the most exciting year I could have imagined.

Life had moved on at Muhlenberg without me, and it was difficult to get back into the swing of things. Instead of traveling to a different city every weekend, I found myself bombarded with homework. While Washington would have offered many weekend cultural and social activities, Allentown's entertainment options were somewhat lacking.

And yet there are things that the College offers that I missed during my study abroad experience. Unlike the U.K. school system's notorious bureaucratic disorganization, the College is organized, efficient and looking out for the best interests of the students. The polite smiles and small acts of kindness so common on Muhlenberg's campus were rarely found on the streets of Washington, DC. Professors at the College are genuinely invested in the best interests of the students and willing to help in any way possible. After returning from my year off

campus, I am realizing just how lucky I am to go to a small school and get this one on one attention I know I would not receive anywhere else.

My junior year abroad was an amazing experience. I traveled to England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Belgium in a period of three months. I helped to coordinate and then witnessed the arrival of Pope Benedict on the White House lawn. I made some of the best friends I've ever had and acquired memories I will never forget. But what I learned from my year abroad was that Muhlenberg lives up to its reputation as the "caring college". While there are still times when I think it would be fun to go to school at a bigger university, or live in an exciting city, my time off campus taught me that I made the right decision in choosing a school like Muhlenberg. And for my remaining three months here, I'm going to enjoy every minute of it.



## P.E. (But not the kind you had in elementary school)

By Erin Futrovsky  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

I was talking to a really close friend today about ideas for my column this week. He quickly relinquished something that I've heard from so many people my age.

Although, this came as a surprise from him, a slightly unwanted surprise for that matter, I acknowledged his need to express this legitimate concern to me, the girl who writes the sex column for her school newspaper.

This boy told me that he wishes he could be better at sex.

This guy gets a lot of credit from me for admitting this to himself, and to me, for that matter, but I didn't really know how to respond to this statement. I kind of brushed it off at first, but then a light bulb went off in my sexually charged brain.

"If guys who are reading my column want to be better in bed," I thought to myself, "I should help them." After all, that is what I'm here for, right?

I quickly got to work. This is roughly the conversation my friend and I had:

\*Please note that all names have been changed because my friends don't know I'm writing this about them, and when they read this, I do not want them to kill me. Thank you.\*

Me: Practice makes perfect

Ben: Yeah, but since Rebecca is abroad, I haven't done it in almost two months.

Me: When you go visit her, you just have to lock yourselves in a room for a day or two and just have sex. That's how you're going to learn the most in a short amount of time.

Ben: Haha. That's funny.

Me: Funny...but true.

Ben: I think I'll do that. I want to just take three Viagra and have sex for three days straight.

Me: You don't need Viagra to do that.

Ben: I would, I don't recover the fastest...

Me: Then don't finish each time you start.

Ben: I wish that could happen.

Me: Oh, Ben...

Ben: Yeah.

Freeze.

Here's my thought process after hearing those words he probably wish he could take back...

Most people agree that one should define premature ejaculation (or P.E., which is the acronym that I am coining for the purposes of this column) as the occurrence of ejaculation prior to

the wishes of both sexual partners. This is a huge issue with a lot of guys--I promise.

The vague explanation of the term avoids indicating an exact length of time for sex. This is because there is not a specific amount of time that sex should last. I know this is very difficult for you to wrap your head around because people equate "good sex" with "long sex" a lot of the time. But you don't have to have marathon sex in order to have a good time, believe me.

P.E. is not a subject that couples like to discuss very often, and because it is not talked about, it becomes taboo. Those who experience premature ejaculation get extremely embarrassed when it occurs and close themselves off to whoever they're having sex with. This prompts both parties to ignore what is going on and pretend that it doesn't happen. Well, that doesn't do either of you any good, does it? He finishes early and you don't get to finish at all. That hardly seems fair to me.

Although marathon sex may be out of the question for you two, don't rush it. Relax. Enjoy yourselves. Take your time. Foreplay is so underrated.

My advice, because if you've read this far you're probably looking for some kind of fix: Talk about the fact that the sex you two are having isn't lasting as long as you want it to. There are ways that you can work together to help treat this issue. There is the "stop and start" method and the "squeeze" method, which are used to help him slow down.

After all, what's the hurry? Unless it's 5:48, dinner is at 6:00, and both of you are craving a quickie, there is no need to sprint to the finish line.

After I finished explaining this to Ben, he told me he would rethink the Viagra (just because you have an erection for three days, doesn't mean you won't finish quickly) and try to slow down.

And boys, if that doesn't work, just focus on the other person until you feel the absolute dire urge to stick it in something. There's nothing better than a noble, unselfish man. Just don't admit to your partner that the reason you're concentrating so intently on them is to distract you from finishing yourself. Talk about a buzz-kill...

By Kevin Tomasura  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Somewhere, deeply ingrained within the fundamental fabrics of a human's genetic code is the need for order. I don't mean order in necessarily the traditional sense, and by no means do I mean *Law and Order*, although that is a good show. What I do mean is that human beings, in that they are human beings, need to rank.

Human beings need numbers, and they need winners and losers, first and last.

Without ranking, many of the sources of our entertainment would be suddenly invalidated, and all of capitalism, sports as well as most other things would crumble. Ranking infiltrates and dominates our everyday lives, to degrees that are prevalent and common, that it has become almost entirely unseen.

We even rank our friends and it is expected for us to have a favorite of everything, just in case there is a stupid survey to fill out about our interests.

Nevertheless, one of our favorite things to rank is each other, and our capacities.

It is a constant battle of pride and potential for us to best our enemies and rivals, and it is of utmost importance to outdo our predecessors. This is no less true when it comes to relationships.

It is inevitable that as human beings we complete each other's lives, reacting to and recalibrating the mistakes of others, creating the whole of our experiences never within the sphere of ourselves, but by correcting the wrong and doing the undone of others.

When it comes to things like sex, it becomes the personal mission and primary objective of a new couple to test their own, and typically each other's, limitations, hoping that they can fill the shoes of those who have come before.

Without a clear point system established, it is almost impossible for us to judge accurately the potential of our peers, and so begins the mind-numbing guessing game that is a relationship. The truth is, sex can be the great divider, but it might just be the mind that is its equalizer.

Surely no two people are exactly the same, and even identical twins have (hopefully) had different experiences when it comes to things like sex.

With experience ranging from celibate shaker to successful sexual predator, it is no surprise that you always will be surprised to find just what people are packing.

## It's all in your head

Expectations vary, and are easily defied, and despite what one might assume, sex isn't just about skill. After all, ever person in the world is or was once a virgin, and all those geeky teenagers turned porn stars had to start somewhere.

When people think back to their first time, they could have fond memories, or pretty terrible ones, but it is most likely safe to say that back in the day, you probably enjoyed your first times if all was well and normal. However, in retrospect, it's probably the case that your awkward high school boyfriends and girlfriends just wouldn't cut it in this day and age.

So now you wonder, how in the Hell did I ever like *her*? And how the Hell did I find myself doing it with *him*, and worse, liking it? The shocking truth for all you would-be men out there, it's not just about girth, oversized ego, and overcompensation, nor is it about how many babes you've bagged in the past. While that certainly comes into play, particularly when playing such games as "what's that bump that wasn't there before?" there is more to sex than meets the eye. It's all about mind and body, and though your body the tool, it's in your mind where the real work is done.

First comes expectation. This can be either defied or fulfilled, both either good or bad. What you expect will be what a good time can be, or can't be, but the thing is what you put in affects what comes out.

Trying is a big part of sex, and the eager-to-please romantic can quite easily triumph over the self-minded egotist who needs a big room mirror but not really you for the job to get done. Trying can easily be restated as willingness, and let's face it you necros,

I don't think dead sex is good sex. With high expectations can come an enhanced willingness, also known as being horny, and to most creatures, when you're willing enough, it seems that pole you've been humping for an hour now is pretty willing too. Base line attraction is imperative here, and one of the main reasons why we like doing what we do.

Just because someone looks good doesn't mean they are, but we tend to imagine it that way. But also, this is where things like foreplay comes in handy, and why a seemingly infinite number of publications are released each year tracking the new trends in the most effective ways of talking dirty.

Apparently alternating threats with reaffirming statements of hope is out of fashion this year, and the classic good cop, bad cop dynamic of talking dirty is old news. Realizing this,

## Battle of the Sexes



**HEAD**

FROM PAGE 10

many men of questionable sexual prowess have enhanced their abilities not through costly medicine like Enzyte, or Taoist sexual mediation, but by simply enhancing their vocabulary. It's been statistically proven that men who do better on their verbal SAT are much sexier.

That's right, Faulkner was really pretty hot behind that mustache. With lies aside, my real point is that the range of possibilities is hardly limited to one's capacities for fulfilling them physically. This is only verified by the fact that Stephen Hawking, unlimited within the capacity of his mind, yet immensely hindered physically within his own body, is the proud father of three children, and a card carrying member of the non-virgin society of America.

Creating his very own vocal synthesizer with a setting

for sexy, Hawking is living proof that the limitations of one's body do not exceed the power of one's mind. With enough love, and just little enough prior physical action, anyone can stand a chance out there. Everyone is good at something, and though not everyone can be good at sex, there is always some facet of pleasure that even a lab rat can comprehend and create, for the sick minded at least.

Even monkeys know enough to press a button until stimulate themselves onto starvation and death, and most guys could and would do that to. The fact of the matter is this: through study, practice, steroidal enhancement, natural male enhancement, as well as plastic surgery, more money, lying, and doing it on the moon or in a submarine, we can always get better.

So next time you want to be sure that you beat your girlfriend's last boyfriend, and you can't quite do it physically and literally, take your vitamins and remember, the mind is a powerful tool even if the rest of your tool shed is lacking.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK: WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR SPRING BREAK?



"Going to Texas to hang out with Germans on a military base."

- Paul Herold, '10



"Reading the entire Twilight series...again."

- Catherine Schwartz, '11



"Going to the zoo with my sisters to release all the animals."

- Andrew Clark, '12



"Getting burnt to a crisp in San Francisco."

- Will LaPlant, '11



"Having a crazy sexy time in Florida."

- Amy Pullizzi, '09

COMPILED BY ROBYN COHEN

Read this far?  
You should probably  
write for Life!

Email [ab237236@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:ab237236@muhlenberg.edu) and  
[bl238155@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:bl238155@muhlenberg.edu)

## AMC Weekend Listings



### Confessions of a Shopaholic

Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

### Coraline

Fri. 4:15, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:15, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:15, 6:50, 9:30

### He's Just Not That Into You

Fri. 4:05, 7:00, 9:50  
Sat. 4:05, 7:00, 9:50  
Sun. 4:05, 7:00, 9:50

### He's Just Not That Into You

Fri. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sat. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00  
Sun. 4:05, 7:00, 10:00

### Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Fri. 4:50, 7:10, 9:40  
Sat. 4:50, 7:10, 9:40  
Sun. 4:50, 7:10, 9:40

### Slumdog Millionaire

Fri. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

### Taken

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30



# Waltz With Bashir

By Matthew Howard  
WEEKLY FILM CRITIC

*Waltz With Bashir* is an absolute stunner, a feature-length animated documentary, in which the force of moving drawings amplifies eerily powerful accounts of war, shaky remembrance and rock-solid repression. Ari Folman's broodingly original documentary seems only possible, not to mention bearable, as an animated feature.

Folman has created a grim, deeply personal hallucination-like atmosphere around the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. *Waltz With Bashir*, named for Bashir Gemayel, the charismatic hero of the Christian militias that allied themselves with Israel, is an illustrated oral history based on interviews that Folman conducted with former comrades, which mixes dreams with their incomplete or conflicting recollections.

*Waltz With Bashir* opens with a pack of slavering dogs rampaging through nocturnal Israel—the dramatization of a recurring nightmare experienced by one of Folman's friends. His assignment, when entering a Lebanese village, had been to silence dogs because

"they knew I couldn't shoot a person." One dream triggers another: Folman, who claims to have forgotten everything about his wartime experiences, has his sleep disturbed by a vision of soldiers, naked save for their dog tags and Uzis, drifting zombie-like out of the ocean onto Beirut's posh hotel strip. That which has been repressed returns with startling ferocity.

Although it can be highly explicit in detailing war's horror, *Waltz With Bashir* is mainly concerned with the recollection of trauma. There's a therapeutic aspect to the project—not surprising in that Folman is one of the creators of the popular Israeli TV show that inspired HBO's psychoanalytic drama *In Treatment*. Folman's dream prompts him to consult a therapist friend early one morning and then, encouraged by the friend's suggestion, begin tracking down the men with whom he served, as a means of recovering or even implanting his own memories of the war.

"Uncontrollable fear" merges with megalomania. A tank rolls into a Lebanese city, casually crushing parked cars and backing up into buildings, until the commander is shot—at which point the soldiers

abandon their weapons and flee in total panic. One former soldier recalls his terror-induced vision of a beautiful giantess who rose out of the sea and allowed him to float away nestled on her body as the transport boat was incinerated. Experience is scarcely less fantastic: The sole survivor of an ambush crouches for hours behind a rock until, under cover of darkness, he swims south and is washed ashore, only to be found by the regiment that abandoned him.

Abetted by Max Richter's ominous martial score, *Waltz With Bashir* matches a grim sense of estrangement with a distinctively alienated look.

The thick-lined, near-monochromatic animation is frequently bathed in an eerie yellow light. Folman has said that his documentary was always intended to be an animated feature—the first ever made in Israel. The interviews were staged and videotaped, with the animators basing their drawings on the video material rather than using a rotoscopic process to transform the original into animation.

The tension inherent in Folman's method is reproduced throughout the film; *Waltz With Bashir* takes

ambivalence as a formal principle. Lebanon 1982 not only merges with present-day Israel but also with an earlier generation's memories of World War II. The war's hallucinatory aspect is heightened by the home front's surreal proximity to the battlefield, both in Tel Aviv and Beirut where Israeli soldiers take sniper fire as civilians watch from hotel terraces.

Folman's unresolved guilt is at once personal and socially symptomatic—and either way, an internal Israeli issue. *Waltz With Bashir* nevertheless inexorably builds to the massacres at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, an atrocity which the Israeli army tacitly enabled but didn't commit and which Folman believes he has repressed but never actually experienced.

Linking the slaughter of the Palestinians to the experience of Folman's parents in Auschwitz, the filmmaker's therapist-friend points out that "the massacre has been with you since you were six." In its final convulsive minutes, *Waltz With Bashir* goes to graphic news footage—breaking the subjective spell with the full, awful weight of TV images that constitute collective memory.

## Pancake Palooza 2009



Students in Newman participated in their annual Pancake Palooza, while students were entertained by acapella and dance.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF STUDENTS IN NEWMAN

# B League Playoff preview

By William Wishart  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

**Sea Turtles:** This team is led by two tough seniors, Seth and Seth, who will continue to look to dominate in big games come playoff time. Last year's B League runners-up have a deep team, who are geared to make a return trip to the championship game.

**Why They Will Win:** They have experience combined with toughness to go all the way. Senior Billy Hall is an explosive defensive player, who makes it tough for anyone to get easy looks around the basket.

**Why They Won't Win:** The inability to close out teams they should easily beat may set up a potential second round loss for the turtles.

**Player to Watch:** Senior Brian Fakhoury

**So Frosh and So Clean:** A young bunch of freshmen who have the youth and inexperience that may help them bypass all the pressure and distractions that will be bestowed upon them come playoff time.

**Why They Will Win:** They play as one solid unit, and use their stingy defense on one end to create a flurry of offensive points on the other end.

**Why They Won't Win:** The youth and inexperience mentioned above could hurt this team come crunch time in the playoffs.

**Player to Watch:** Freshman Sean Boyle

**Boats and Stoges:** This group of ballers is led by senior captain Stephen "Bouche" Borchard. Behind Bouche, this team has soared to new heights with exciting wins over some top five teams. Watch for big play from their entire bench which includes, senior Dave Mazzola, senior Jay Rat, and junior Jake Floyd, to help cruise this team into the later rounds.

**Why They Will Win:** Stingy D combined with timely shooting = W's. If they can continue this equation they will be holding Lord Wishart's Trophy at the end of the season.

**Why They Won't Win:** Senior Andrew Cipriano's head has to continually be focused on the game, if not he will let his team down with his cancerous mentality. Hopefully he can shed the Terrell Owen comparisons he has garnered this season.

**Key Player to Watch:** Junior Jer-Bear Marcus

**Sig Ep:** This Whacky bunch of Frat brothers have grown into a solid unit over this season. If they can continue to play at the pace which they have been going at, they will upset more than just one team this postseason.

**Why They Will Win:** Senior Dave Atler has got his team in prime position to be a championship contender, and if this continues there won't be a team that can compete with them.

**Why They Won't Win:** Inexperience and a lack of consistent scoring in crunch time against quality teams could hinder a chance at being alone at the top of the mountain at the end of the season.

**Key Player to Watch:** Senior Justin Demko

**Hastings:** This is the team the top four seeds should be very worried about. They have great team chemistry and quality wins to back up that statement.

**Why They Will Win:** Quality wins over a rigorous season over top 8 teams, combined with size and speed will trouble any team post-season time.

**Why They Won't Win:** Losses over lower seeded teams, along with an unproven leadership could lead to an early exit.

**Key Player to Watch:** Junior Drew Holly

**Tazorbacks:** Explosive bunch of footballers, who continue to be in every single game they play. With a better shot selection along with efficient passing this team will be dancing late in this tournament.

**Why They Will Win:** Strength and speed could land this team as a real threat to anyone they play.

**Why They Won't Win:** Lack of basketball I.Q. on the defensive side of the court could see this team exiting early from this year's tourney.

**Key Player To Watch:** Junior Buddy G. Cavalieri

**Best of the Rest:** Fritz

**Most Likely to be Cinderella:** DTD

**Team Happiest to Just Get In:** Viva Taki

**Hardest Playing Team all Year:** T-Rex

**Prediction:** Boats and Stoges over Hastings in the final.

**Pre-Tournament MVP:** Coach Knowles

**Pre-All Tournament Team:** Point Guard- senior Matt Katz

**Shooting Guard-** Borchard

**Small Forward-** Knowles,

**Power Forward-** Coach Hart

**Center-** Billy Hall

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THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY

## Sports Schedule



### Women's Tennis

Fri., Feb. 27 vs. Vassar, 4:00 pm

### Women's Basketball

Centennial Conference Playoffs

Sat., Feb. 28 vs. Dickinson or  
McDaniel, 1:00 pm

### Track and Field

C.C. Championship  
Sat., Feb. 28 at Ursinus



# Mules lace up their track spikes for Championship meet: Centennial Conference Track & Field preview

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Muhlenberg track  
and field athletes  
have Centennial

season. "I'm faster than I was at this time last season."

If the Centennial Conference website's current ratings speak for the meet, you can count on a close battle to the finish line. Many top-ranked athletes in each event lead by just seconds and inches.

Here's an overview of the Mules' top event contenders (Centennial Conference Performance List, last updated on Feb. 23)

## On the Track....

### Sprints:

Women: Junior Alex Faust is ranked 4th in the 55m (7.57); 6th in the 200m (26.82); and 1st in the 400m (59.54). Senior Lucy Brock is ranked 5th in the 55m hurdles (9.19).

Men: Junior Jeremiah LaChaud ranks 2nd in the 55m (6.65) and 4th in the 200m (23.51). Freshman Peter Rice is 7th in the 400m (52.25), followed closely by 8th ranked junior Brendan Kirk (52.30). Kirk is also ranked 6th in the 55m hurdles (8.21).

### Distance:

Women: Junior Jennifer Lynch is ranked 8th in the 800m (2:24.56); 6th in the Mile (5:14.23); and 7th in the 3,000 (10:35.13).

Men: Senior Stuart Udis is ranked 2nd in the 800m (1:55.30); sophomore Bobby Torphy is 4th (1:57.68); Chorney is 10th (1:59.12). Chorney is also ranked 2nd in the Mile (4:18) and his time is one-one-hundredth of a second away from the

school record, and 2 seconds away from the NCAA Provisional standard. Chorney is also ranked 2nd in the 3000m (8:40.15).

### Relays:

Women: The 4x200 relay team is ranked 4th (1:51.55); the 4x400 team is 3rd(4:18.89); the 4x800 team is 4th (10:15.29); Distance Medley Relay is 3rd. (13:06.28).

Men: The 4 x 200 team is ranked 5th (1:35.72); and the 4 x 400 team is 2nd (3:28.57), with less than a second's cushion between first place Haverford and 3rd place Dickinson. The 4 x 800 relay ranks 1st (8:21.85), and the Distance Medley Relay is 7th (11:42.57).

## On the Field ...

### Jumps & Pole Vault:

Women: Senior Amanda Martini ranks 9th in triple jump (32 ft., 3.75 in.). Faust is 1st in pole vault (12 ft). Her vault easily made the NCAA Provisional height of 11 ft., 3.75in., and her current personal best is just 3.75 in. away from NCAA Automatic qualification.

Men: Freshman Marc Brookland is ranked 3rd in long jump (21 ft., 3.5 in.), and 3rd in triple jump (43 ft., 9.5 in.). Junior Joe Dyer is ranked 4th in high jump (6 ft., 1/2 in.) and 8th in triple (41 ft., 3.75 in.).

### Throws:

Women: Debra Crockett ranks 5th in shot put (35 ft., 6 in.)

Men: Freshman Joe Tritto is ranked 7th in shot

on the brain.

"At the beginning of the season, we talked about winning the Conference," said senior Co-captain David Chorney. "Now that weekend is here."

The Mules compete this weekend at the Centennial Conference Championship, held Feb. 28 to Mar.

1 at Ursinus College. Last year, the men placed sixth and the women fifth in the nine-team meet.

This year, Chorney predicts a closer fight for first between the Mules and rival teams Haverford, Dickinson and Johns Hopkins.

"It's going to be really close," Chorney said.

Chorney and his fellow senior teammates know a thing or two about close meets. As a freshman, Chorney's team missed out on a second place finish by just two points to rival Dickinson. The women missed the first place trophy by just one-and-a-half points. The men took fourth in 2007, and the women third.

Now, the Mules are looking to contend for a top-place finish.

Chorney says he is more than prepared for the weekend. The distance veteran is slated to run the Mile, the Distance Medley Relay, and the 1000m. "I'm healthy this season," said Chorney, who dealt with injuries this past Cross Country

## Women's Intramural League

By Brittany Rodriguez  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Not everyone can be a varsity athlete. However, not being on a varsity team does not mean you cannot enjoy an exhilarating game

of basketball. Having an all girls intramural league gave everyone a chance to come out, enjoy themselves, and play basketball, whether they wanted to play competitively or just for fun. This year the intramural program was able to put together a very successful women's basketball league.

Originally, there was going to be one court for the girls to play on. However, the turnout far exceeded expectations. Over 20 girls showed up

every Sunday and Tuesday night, ranging from former varsity players and high school athletes to relative beginners and even a few first-timers.

Due to this, the girls were able to expand the league to four teams instead of two, allowing for more action, more playing time, and more fun for all. For some, the intramural season was a great way to keep basketball in their lives, for others it was the perfect opportunity to try the game for the first time. No matter what the reason for playing, a good time was had by all, and after the success of this season, expectations are already high for the next one!

Do you think you  
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# Where dreams came true



## Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

In this Korner of the world, Spring Break approaching means only one thing: Intramural Basketball playoffs. With a tumultuous three days of games, each team fortunate enough to make the playoffs will have to juggle their daily games with midterms as obstacles. By the time you read this, a new champion in each league will already have been crowned, as both championships are set for Wednesday, Feb. 25. But with the season winding down, it's time for the 2009 IM season recap.

Looking back on the preseason

awards handed out by the Intramural Boards of Directors, a few choices have panned out like Ryan Leaf did, and some had better results. After another informal vote by the Intramural Board of Directors, the regular season awards have been determined. Just like preseason, there were two unanimous picks for First-Team All A league: senior Joe Gogel and junior Brian Ward. The preseason MVP pick, Gogel led his Kon Tiki squad to an 11-1 record and the number 1 seed heading into the playoffs. In the biggest game of the year, Kon Tiki's win over Team Wish, Gogel scored around 35 points in their triple-overtime victory. Dubbed a "Bull in a China Shop" by junior Andrew Shire, Gogel played with an unrivaled intensity night in and night out. Ward was the leader and catalyst of an injury-plagued Team Wish. Arguably the leading scorer and easily the leading assist man and defensive player, Ward led Wish to an 11-1 record and the number 2 seed in the chase for the Kup.

Joining Gogel and Ward on the first-team are seniors Joe Caporoso and Tim Ganter, and juniors Frank Emmett and Matt Cecconi. Caporoso was the most consistent player on an inconsistent FootBallers squad. Finishing the regular season in third place, the FootBallers headed into the postseason as the team no one wanted to play. Caporoso's shooting and physical inside play helped lead the FootBallers all season long. When injuries took their toll on Team Wish, no one stepped up more than Tim Ganter. Usually a role player and shooting specialist, Ganter took

his game to new heights. Although he never actually won a tip to start the game, Ganter transformed into Team Wish's leading scorer towards the end of the year. Cecconi teamed with Gogel to form the most dynamic duo in the league. An incredible athlete and infuriatingly cerebral player, Cecconi caused problems for every team he faced. As a deep-shooting threat but an unstoppable driver, Cecconi's emergence as a premier player was the difference for Kon Tiki this year.

Emmett was the lone bright spot on a dull season for the ManBearPigs squad. A low-post force, Emmett has continued to develop his skills around the basket and became the league's dominant low-post scorer this season. Look for Emmet as a possible MVP candidate next season, if he can actually get his team to show up every night.

The First-Team all B league was also voted on, and proved to be a far deeper field than the A league. Nonetheless, the Board of Directors was able to narrow the list down to the finest 6 players. Seniors Seth Kaye and Seth Glasser teamed up to lead the SeaTurtles to an undefeated season, and the two combined to put "Seth" on the first team. Junior Drew Howley was perhaps the finest point guard in the league, leading his Hastings squad to a solid season. Freshman Steve Nissley teamed with freshman Sean Boyle to lead the SoFrosh and SoClean team to a 9-1 record and the number 2 seed, and both earned All-League honors. Rounding out the First-Team are senior Steve Borchard and Coach Knowles of the Boats N Stoges team, who led their team to a number 3 seed, losing only to the top 2

seeds. Several honorable mention votes also went to freshman Abby Sbat, who became the first female player in the league and was also one of the league's leading scorers the last 2 weeks. See William Wishart's B League Playoff Preview for most information on these players and teams.

The Board of Directors also voted on a number of other awards as well. Referee of the Year went to senior Darrell Roth, the preseason favorite to take the home the prestigious honor. Rookie of the Year went to freshman Matt Siedt, a 6-4 player with a smooth touch around the hoop. Siedt came out of nowhere to be one of the better post scorers and rebounders in the league, and the future looks bright for this young star.

Comeback Player of the Year went to Caporoso. Coach of the Year went to senior William Wishart, whose late season injury kept him off the First-Team ballot but won him this equally magnificent award. Scorekeeper of the Year may have been the most difficult decision of them all. Mark "Coatesville" Mouynar led the league in games scored, but seniors Dano Dugan, Joe Pisano, and Nicole "Mr. Billy" Waddell put forth great performances as well. In the end, Coatesville's quantity outweighed the quality of the others to take home the honor.

On behalf of the Intramural Directors, a big thanks goes out to everyone who played, refereed, scored, or simply watched this season. It was a fantastic season for all. Please continue to support future Intramural events.

Thanks again!

## ROUGH START

FROM PAGE 16

Institute of Technology Ducks increased their lead 5-1, a score the

Mules never overcame, eventually losing 16-4.

Senior defenseman John DeLuca was a standout for his expert play (he was able to hold a preseason Division III 'Player of the Year' candidate goalless). Freshman attackman Corey Aferiat also played well. He scored a goal and had an assist in his first collegiate game. Also scoring were senior midfielder Nick Fletcher and sophomore attackman Brent Siebold, whose goal was unassisted. Coach Bissinger also praised junior defender Matthew Schroeder who "was solid, as usual."

Despite the decisive loss, Bissinger is confident for the future of the team. "We will respond in our 2nd game," he said.

The Mules' next game is Wednesday, Mar. 4 at Lynchburg.



Left: Senior Captain John DeLuca takes a defensive stance on the field; Right: Senior Captain Nick Fletcher shoots past a distant defender.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Muhlenberg Hockey drops Championship game in heartbreaking loss

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

It was an indeed a storybook ending, but for the wrong team.

After going 10-1-3 in the regular season and finishing second overall in the standings, the Muhlenberg Mules got their equipment ready and headed down to the ice rinks at Grundy for the Great Northeast Collegiate Hockey Conference playoffs.

The Mules were experienced, much of the team (juniors and seniors) having been on the 2006-2007 championship-winning team; they hoped to pass down that experience to the young underclassmen.

Muhlenberg defeated CW Post in the semifinals, having received a bye for the first round. CW Post was the only team that defeated Muhlenberg during the regular season. The Mules were able to dominate the Long Islanders and league MVP goaltender Will Neifeld with an 8-2 win to advance to the finals.

Playing the University of Scranton, the regular season champions, Muhlenberg had won and tied each of their games against the Royals, and was prepared for battle.

However, the game did not end as the Mules had hoped, with Muhlenberg losing in a heartbreaker 3-2 in overtime.

Scranton outplayed Muhlenberg for much of the game, and despite Muhlenberg taking a 2-1 lead in the first period, the Royals were able to dominate the game from the middle of the first period until the end of the game, tying it and ultimately scoring the game winning goal.

Muhlenberg goaltender David Emerson, a junior, played an unbelievable game, stopping 38 of 41 Scranton shots, saving the game many times with some fantastic stops.

"David Emerson is the best goalie I have ever had play behind me," said senior Captain Robbie Janowitz.

Ultimately, though, Emerson received little help from his defense as they were caught in the defensive zone for the majority of the game. Scranton's speed and skill were too much for a tired Muhlenberg team, hampered by injuries to two key players in the game. Muhlenberg mustered up just 16 shots total.

The game-winning goal was scored just over five minutes into overtime, as a Scranton forward shot the puck, dribbling past Emerson to clinch the Great Northeast Collegiate Hockey Conference Championship.

"I could not be more proud of the effort given by every guy in the locker room, especially Emerson who stood on his head not only in the championship but all season long," said assistant captain senior Brad Zatcoff. "Although the season did not end the way we wanted it to, we had a great group of guys this year who really meshed well together to create one of the deepest and closest teams at Muhlenberg which is what makes the loss that much harder."

Though deflated, the Muhlenberg team gathered for a team picture with their silver medals at center ice, saluted the devoted fans that made the journey to support the team, and headed off the ice one final time this season.

"For me it was a great year," Janowitz said. "In all of my four years at Muhlenberg I have never seen a team so tightly knit."

The season, though, was far from a failure.

"We had a great journey," Janowitz continued, "and I think even though it was disappointing to lose in overtime of the championship game, we will look back on years to come and be really proud of what we did together."

"I think I can speak for [myself and] the rest of the seniors on the team when I say that there has been a real transformation in Muhlenberg Hockey since we have been here. The program has grown so much both with an increase in talent and an increase in our fan base." He goes on, saying that the thing he will miss the most is playing in front of the passionate Muhlenberg fans. "We play in front of the most amazing fans in the league."

"Overall, it was quite a run this year; we played through adversity and did some amazing things," Janowitz concluded. "I am proud to be able to say I played on this team with this group of guys and although the loss hurts now, I know that years from now I will remember more of what we accomplished than the loss itself."

"This loss though does not in anyway diminish the great season that the team had," Zatcoff explained. "I expect next year's team to come back with even more hard work and determination to make it back to the championship and win it. With so much young talent on the team, I look forward to seeing continued success for the team into the future."

Congratulations to the Mules' hockey team on a great season.

## No home in Hoboken for Men's Lacrosse

By Ben Levine  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

On an overcast day in Hoboken, NJ, the Muhlenberg Men's Lacrosse Team lost the season opener at Stevens. Stevens was

ranked 11th in the nation and the Mules had lost last season's opener against the Ducks, so the Mules knew they were in for a challenge. Stevens was the first game of a difficult start to the season; the next game will be against the Lynchburg Hornets who were ranked 10th in the pre-season poll.

Sunday, the Mules struggled offensively and were outshot 51-28. They also struggled on face-offs, only winning 8 of 23.

The Mules held off the Ducks' attack early but fell behind by a goal in the fourth minute. Three minutes later, 'Berg fell down another goal.

Then, under thirty seconds later, the Mules gave up a third goal while down a man. There were many questionable calls during the game, most of them going against the Mules. "We were man down eleven times - an average game might be 3 or 4 man down situations. And once we were down, we didn't respond to the challenge and frustration," said Head Coach Chris Bissinger.

Immediately following the initial face off of the second quarter, 'Berg capitalized on a turnover in the Ducks' defensive end. Andrew Lolley scored the goal, cutting the Ducks' lead to two. The Mules entered the second period down 4-1. The Ducks quickly picked up where they left off in the first quarter, scoring a decisive goal, the Stevens

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W E E K L Y



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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009

# Racial borders and citizenship in U.S.

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

In early America, people could be denied citizenship even if they were born in the country. That, clearly, has changed. On Tues., Mar. 10 the Center for Ethics hosted Dr. Deborah Rosen of Lafayette College as a speaker for their series, *Politics, Ethics & Citizenship*.

Dr. Rosen earned her Ph.D. from Columbia University and is the head of the History department at Lafayette, American Legal History and Native American history. Dr. Rosen's lecture entitled, "Racial Borders: Law and Citizenship in the United States, 1787-2009," focused on the evolution of constitutional law as it pertains to African Americans' citizenship, American Indian citizenship and the "whiteness" prerequisite for naturalization of immigrants.

Dr. Rosen began by explaining the Naturalization Act of 1790. This act states that, "any alien, being a free white person...may be admitted to become a citizen." During this time, another way to become a citizen was by birth right. She went on to state that this act clearly did not include African Americans and that African Americans were actually excluded from becoming citizens by birth right as well.

The *Dred Scott v. Sandford* Supreme Court case of 1857 was a case against a slave owner trying to claim freedom. In the end it was ruled by the United States Supreme Court that people of African descent imported into the United States and held as slaves, or their descendants, whether or not they were slaves, were not legal persons and could never be citizens of the United States. After, Dr. Rosen emphasized that most of the northern states, particularly the New England states protested the outcome of the *Dred Scott* case. It

was not until the end of the American Civil War in 1865 that three amendments were added to the U.S. Constitution, one of which, according to Dr. Rosen, addressed the *Dred Scott* decision.

These amendments were the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth. The thirteenth amendment abolished the institution of slavery, the fifteenth proclaimed that a person cannot be denied the right to vote based on race and the fourteenth, which is the amendment that addressed *Dred Scott* states that if a person is born in the United States then they are a citizen.

Dr. Rosen then clarified that these positive, forward-moving changes actually did not apply to every racial group. She said that the fourteenth amendment was deemed not to apply to American Indians and that they were also excluded from citizenship by naturalization.

While studying this topic, Dr. Rosen said the concept of "whiteness" must also be explored she described the "whiteness" prerequisite and how one had to prove that they were white to be a U.S citizen. During the nineteenth century it was decided that people of Mexican or Armenian descent were white, people of Asian descent were not and people from India, Syria and Arabia may or may not be white. Based on this history and these decisions, Dr. Rosen concluded that these "cases reinforced white superiority."

During the twentieth century the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were based on the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments. The Voting Rights Act gave all people the right to vote stating that prerequisites or standards cannot be placed on voting. This was especially important for African Americans because in practice, many African Americans

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*"Dr. Rosen's presentation effectively shed light on the history of race and citizenship in the United States."*

# "Women and Mental Health"

By Cameron Webb  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

On Mon., Mar. 16, the kickoff event for Active Minds, entitled, *Women and Mental Health*, was held in the Great Room. Active Minds makes its debut as a new student-run mental health awareness organization working to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness. Consisting of two speakers sharing some intimate, personal, and at times even uncomfortable material, the mission of Active Minds was thoroughly demonstrated.

First created in 2004 at the University of Pennsylvania, Active Minds has become a nationwide organization, both on the collegiate and regional level. Promoting awareness, and making an effort to eradicate the stigma associated with mental health, Active Minds seeks to follow its mission through sponsoring and organizing campus-wide events.

"Active Minds at Muhlenberg College" received official recognition in Dec. by the College making the group the 182nd national chapter. Since then, seven additional chapters have formed across the country, making the total 189 chap-

ters nationwide.

As attendees of "Women and Mental Health" entered the Great Room Monday Night, *Girl, Interrupted*, a hit 1999 drama starring Angelina Jolie and Winona Ryder was playing on a dual projection screen. Offering an intimate space, the seventy-seat warm arrangement of the audience produced an atmosphere of comfort and safety.

Introducing the event were Active Minds board members and event planners Alana Lerer '11 and Jessica Gutwetter '11. Starting with some startling statistics regarding the universal effectiveness of mental health, the program then was turned over to Jacob Kreeger '11 at which point he introduced his mother and sister.

Lauren Kreeger, Jacob's sister, began the speaker portion of the event by talking about her personal experiences, shocking the audience by saying she had been in and out of institutions on nearly a dozen different occasions. Even adding that her stays at Carrier Clinic in Belle Meade, NJ included Electric Compulsive Therapy, an extreme procedure sometimes used as a tool

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Diane and Lauren Kreeger, mother and sister of Jacob Kreeger '11, respectively, spoke about their personal experiences with mental illness.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INSLEY FOWLER



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## The sanctity of contracts

Since the beleaguered insurance giant American International Group paid \$165 million in bonuses over the weekend, public outrage has spread fast and furious. Millions of taxpayers have aired their anger over the bonuses by inundating lawmakers' phones and mailboxes, writing death threats and hate mail to AIG headquarters and blogging about the scandal on the Internet. In case you don't know, AIG is the world's largest insurance company, insuring, among many other things, mortgages. Some economists argue that it was AIG's eagerness to insure "sub-prime" mortgages – mortgages that are too expensive for homeowners to repay – which lead to the current economic crisis. When borrowers were unable to repay their mortgages, banks relied on AIG to cover their losses. Unfortunately, there were so many insurance claims by banks that AIG couldn't afford to pay the banks back.

In Sept. of 2008, a similar firm, Lehman Brothers, filed the largest bankruptcy in American history. As analysts compared the two companies, they found that AIG's insurance of sub-prime mortgages were similar to Lehman's. In an effort to avoid the economic windfall that resulted from Lehman's demise, the government quickly intervened to prevent AIG from going under.

The same month, the Federal Reserve Bank authorized the allocation of nearly \$123 billion to prop up the fledgling insurance company. Seeing that the current bailouts weren't having enough effect on the company, the government kept increasing its payouts to AIG. To date, AIG has received \$170 billion in taxpayer bailouts, which makes the government the owner of 80% of AIG.

What makes the subject of bonuses especially contentious is the justification AIG gave for paying the bonuses. Current Chief Executive Officer, Edward Liddy defended the bonuses by saying they were part of contracts made before the economic crisis, and that refusal to pay them would be a breach of contract. This begs the question: Should circumstances dictate whether contracts are honored? If we say "yes," what precedent would that set for other contracts? Can all other contracts be voided based on varying circumstances? We hope that unprecedented step isn't taken, a step that would change the entire legal landscape. It's just not worth it!

## Flex, hugs, and rock and roll

In response to: "The GQ experience"

By Laura Arielle Sukonick  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Although the weather has finally begun to satisfy us with the first kiss of spring, I opted to sacrifice my time with the sunny skies and duck into the Seegers Union instead. In the February 26 issue of the Weekly, Jordan Blumenthal '12 and Benjamin Portney '12 speak of Seegers/the GQ as a place to be avoided at all costs. Recently, I was homeward bound and made the decision to stop in despite my awareness that I would surely be delaying my ETA. I was certainly glad that I did. In response to the harsh negativity depicted in your illustration of the Seegers experience, I will provide you with my view of the subject by sharing a lovely yet typical Seegers experience of my own. With this, I hope not only to clarify why I consistently "duck into Seegers," but additionally to help you view this facility in a new and more appreciative light.

I, too, make my way through the double doors and, as you phrase it, "get bombarded by the tables." I am usually quite happy to listen to student representatives passionately explain their goals. When I find this not to be the case, however, it is no difficult feat to avoid any such "tablers." Since you seem to find filling out a student's survey so detrimentally destructive to your day, you might try responding to your next surveyor with a simple "no thank you." On this particular day, however, there are neither students nor surveys to be found at the tables. Instead there is a woman selling intricate hats and bags that she has so beautifully crafted herself. Upon immediately recognizing her warm smile, I excitedly stop to greet her. I inform her that I rarely take off my beloved scarf which I'd purchased from her two years prior. The beautifully spirited "hat lady," as many students have endearingly nicknamed her, remembers both me and the scarf. She thanks me, proceeding to explain the gratitude she feels when someone stops to share such feedback with her.

After the mutually appreciated chat, I head to what you refer to as "the GQ runway." You describe, and I quote, "The GQ stare is a phrase my roommate Ben and I devised to explain the hundreds of curious stares from the already situated Mules as you walk towards the food." In response, I offer both you and your roommate a dose of my own sound advice. With all due respect: grow up. People are curious about others. Yes. People are terribly fascinating. What's their story? I wonder what I share with that person. How would I react in that same situation? I will be the first Mule to

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## EnAcT: Many opinions, not enough facts

By Matthew Cobaugh  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

In the last publication of the Muhlenberg Weekly, a Muhlenberg student wrote an article that was designed to clear up some issues that have surfaced surrounding EnAcT and their initiatives. After reading the article, I was left with more questions and opinions than clear answers and stances concerning EnAcT. The purpose of writing the following article is not to attack or overtly criticize any Muhlenberg student personally, or EnAcT as a whole. As I have clearly stated in past articles, EnAcT is a legitimate club on campus and deserves all the same rights as every other club.

Where I strike issue is when EnAcT considers their initiatives as "campaigns." These so called "campaigns" are nothing more than forced compliance to EnAcT's agenda because students have no choice but to reduce their standard of living on campus as required by EnAcT. With this premise set, I feel I must continue to express my dismay for the power EnAcT has over the community I have grown to love so dearly. That is why it is incumbent of me to respond to EnAcT's clear public relations initiative otherwise cited as the article in last week's paper.

First, let me draw the clear picture that is developing and the power grab EnAcT is reach-

ing for that must be stopped. EnAcT has mandated many initiatives on campus that have substantially reduced our quality of life. This is a problem in that every student, whether or not they agree with the initiative, is forced to comply or be damned.

Imagine, for an instant, if the College Republicans or the College Democrats forced every student to comply with a partisan policy. For instance, if the College Republicans mandated that every student post an Anti-Obama sign in their window. Surely this would be outrageous, but EnAcT is doing the same thing. No other club on campus has the power to mandate that every student change their lifestyle to fit their agenda but EnAcT does.

In EnAcT's recent article there were many statistics cited in order to persuade the average student that there is a dire need to mandate their policies. Here at Muhlenberg we place a lot of emphasis on cited facts and assuring that articles are scholarly rather than opinion. It's unfortunate to see that EnAcT feels they can state statistics without ever citing them. And, after conducting my own research, I have discovered that many of their "facts" are not true. One such issue is when EnAcT said tap water is subject to more stringent governmental standards than bottled water. This claim is outrageously false. It

is actually common practice that bottled water is at least filtered more than tap water if nothing more than to make their water worth buying because it tastes better.

Secondly, according to Dr. Angela Logomasini, the FDA has set bottled water regulations that mirror the EPA's and are in many respects more stringent than tap water regulations.

The next claim that EnAcT made in their article is that by removing bottled water from campus, we are forced to switch to a "more sustainable option." The "more sustainable option" in question involved fixing water filters randomly onto tap water faucets around campus. These filters not only would cost more to the college long term, but to consider their maintenance and upkeep the filters clearly are not more sustainable compared to bottled water.

The final claim made by EnAcT is that of the signatures on the, now infamous, petition. It has been drawn to the Student Government's attention that the signatures on the petition were made under false pretenses and that not all the signers were given complete information on the subject of removing bottled water, and were in fact misled into signing it. The second issue that was

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# Obama has picked his poison wisely

By Steven Tabb  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

After reading Matthew Cobaugh's arrogant article on "Obama ruining the economy," I had no choice but to counter-attack. It is time to bring Matthew to The School of Economic Hard Knocks. Based on his lack of evidence and intellectual understanding of the current economic crisis, it seemed important to clarify many of the controversial decisions that Congress has had to handle in the past few months.

The current economic crisis is more severe than many may believe. Based on the Economic Reports provided by Lawrence H. Summers, the Director of the National Economic Council, approximately \$50 trillion in global wealth has been erased over the last 18 months. This includes \$7 trillion in U.S. stock market wealth and \$6 trillion in housing wealth that has been destroyed. As a result, declining demand and a declining GDP have already caused 4.4 million jobs to be lost and the unemployment rate to skyrocket above eight percent.

It is absolutely essential for the U.S. government to bring an end to the vicious economic cycles that are preventing the market from self-stabilizing. A weakened financial system has led to less borrowing and spending, thus weakening the finan-

cial system further. The same effect is occurring with banks holding less capital, housing prices falling, and less spending from lower income families. As a result, we have witnessed a major seller's market for over a year. Consumer confidence is at an all-time low and the price of gold continues to rise as the global economy suffers. John Maynard Keynes' General Theory states that two or three times each century, the self-equilibrating properties of markets break down and stabilizing mechanisms are overwhelmed by a ferocious succession of dreadful events, causing fiscal stimulus to be a necessity. A powerful economic stimulus bill must be provided to break these vicious cycles and instill the trust within buyers and investors.

It is extremely important to recognize the borrowing role that the government must take. The government is capable of absorbing tremendous amounts of debts in order to create a strong economic expansion while paying back its debts in the future. Unlike the government, private businesses and everyday taxpayers cannot absorb this damage. Without a very powerful stimulus, the American economy will continue to lose trillions (yes, trillions with a "t") of dollars in productivity.

Cobaugh's article claims that

Obama's stimulus is "riddled with pork;" however, he does not mention any specification of what the bill contains and why it should be considered "pork." In fact, there are no specifications of the stimulus whatsoever in his article. Instead, Cobaugh spends the majority of his article emphasizing the amount of money being spent. Yes, we know it is a lot of money. With that kind of money, you could hang out with Rush Limbaugh and recreate the hooker scene from American Psycho every day for the rest of your life.

In truth, the Economic Stimulus is comprised of many different recovery investments. A substantial portion is dedicated to infrastructure. According to Martin V. Alonzo, an adjunct professor of economics at Muhlenberg, infrastructure "is an investment that works practically overnight. For every one dollar invested in infrastructure, approximately 1.4 dollars are created in revenues."

This job creation will not only save or create 3.5 million jobs, but it will perform work on many problems that America has faced for too long, including doubling renewable energy capacity and modernizing ten thousand schools. The economic effect is what I like to call a "triple-positive:" Employment is provided to millions of Americans

who are in need of living wages, production of infrastructure is re-invested, and increased tax returns provide the government more money in the future. Call me crazy, but this seems like more than just "pork."

The Economic Stimulus plan will also provide tax relief and tax credits, specifically targeting lower income workers and families. Workers who make less than \$75,000 a year (or married couples who make \$150,000 or less) will receive \$400 tax credits in 2009 and 2010. Health insurance subsidies for the unemployed and home buyer tax credits will also increase significantly.

While tax credits are important to help lower income families survive during these gloomy times, most economists agree that investing in job creation is the most direct route to turning around the economy. Tax cuts and tax credits can help soothe the pain, but in this type of economy, most of that money will be used to pay off debt or be saved in a money market account. It will not create much spending confidence in the economy, which therefore cannot drastically increase the velocity of money and cannot bring many businesses and jobs to thrive again.

I t  
could

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## ENACT FROM PAGE 2

brought to Student Government's attention was that not all the signatures have been confirmed to be actual people. There was a report made

by one of the Student Government Representatives that he witnessed names like "Donald Duck" on the petition. Until EnAcT clears this issue up and confirms publicly to the student body exactly how many names they actually have, the petition should be void from all argument.

The final topic of discussion is that of Trayless Tuesdays. The first argument in support of Trayless Tuesdays was that one hundred and nine campuses have taken on this initiative. The argument clearly is that of, "well, everyone else is doing it so why don't we?" This argument is primitive at best because every Muhlenberg student can see clearly through the lens of history that masses of people don't always make rational decisions. The second argument that cites no sources is that going trayless conserves energy.

Every Muhlenberg student should take this "fact" at face value and be insulted that EnAcT is trying to pass opinions off as fact without ever once citing a source. Until I see a breakdown of precisely how much energy is saved converted into how many tons (or tens of pounds) of coal is being saved by me not using a tray, I will not believe EnAcT and will continue using a tray. In fact, the first mandated Trayless Tuesday had such a student uproar against it that Sodexo was forced to make using a tray optional.

Finally EnAcT openly admitted that not using a tray is a "slight inconvenience" but we should still do it any way because it is good for the environment. If we use the standard of, "it is a slight inconvenience but we should still do it" then let me suggest something that will undoubtedly help the environment.

I am officially proposing Starving Sunday's here on Muhlenberg's campus. Starving Sunday's entails there being no food provided on campus for every Sunday. Sure, it's a slight inconvenience, but we can definitely do it. Scientists say that humans can go for weeks without food, so what's one day without food? Just imagine actually reducing our food waste down to zero and cutting our carbon footprint in half for a day.

Of course I'm being satirical and sarcastic, but the principle is still the same! I'm merely illustrating absurdity by being absurd. My question for EnAcT is, where do you draw the line? When will you stop removing our civil rights all in the name of being green? If EnAcT wants to educate the campus and give us the option of being green, please do so, but stop forcing me to comply with your initiatives.

## THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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# Happy 6th Anniversary, Iraq!

By Alexander Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Today is the sixth anniversary of the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq and boy, has Muhlenberg College made a profit! More than a million Iraqis have died as well as 4,259 U.S. military men and women. Although that might sound like something to protest, Muhlenberg's endowment grows when war and genocide profiteers make profits!

You see, sarcasm aside, Muhlenberg's endowment is split up among many different mutual, indexed, and hedge funds that are not screened for their impacts on things like war and genocide profiteers. Without oversight from a socially responsible investing (SRI) committee made up from the college community, Muhlenberg students, employees, and alumni are forced to blindly finance a system that does not hold itself accountable for our top business ethics concerns.

Two years ago, student activists including Adrian Shanker '09, Jacy Good '08, and Barbara Macholz '08 spent a year petitioning the college to divest from the top companies funding or supplying the Darfur genocide. After much frustration and exhaustion, they uncovered that the State Street Global Advisors mutual fund was the biggest culprit, but that Muhlenberg would not seek to divest from it because our funds are commingled with other LVAIC schools. After a few phone calls to State Street, Muhlenberg gave up on divestment from genocide, according to Kent Dyer, Chief Business Officer & Treasurer.

Since we are still invested in State Street's genocide profiteering, we also

hold shares in Textron, a Connecticut based company that produces cluster bombs for the U.S. military and its allies. The U.S. military has routinely used devastating, brutal weapons on Iraqi civilians like white phosphorous (produced by General Dynamics) in Fallujah, which burns victims alive, and cluster bombs, the number one killer of children in the conflict. In addition, while unemployment in Iraq has soared between 30 and 60 percent, the occupation of U.S. development corporations like Halliburton, Bechtel, Exxon-Mobil, Shell, and BP have kept Iraqis out of work and their company profits high on defense contracts they've won with our help.

These companies are all counting on institutions like Muhlenberg and politicians like Barack Obama to keep funding their pillaging of Iraq. Unfortunately, Obama is signing onto the biggest bundle of blood funding yet for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, topping \$215 billion. He has already escalated in Afghanistan, delayed the Iraq withdrawal timeline, and bombed Pakistan. He is committed to increasing Army and Marine troop levels and keeping Cold War-esque military dominance. There is no peace on his agenda.

On the opening of the seventh year of Iraq's occupation, all that's left is for us to stand up at our colleges and universities against these injustices like those against Dow Chemical's napalm and companies supporting South African apartheid. We should not have to pay for wars and genocide with our tuition. Students, employees, and alumni deserve a voice and participation in working to improve Muhlenberg's impact on injustices. No tuition, compensation, and donations without representation!

## Alternative spring break to New Orleans

By Alexandra Schklair  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Saxophones sing and heels click to the beat. Gumbo and sweet potatoes are as abundant as mosquitoes after a storm. I imagine children playing street ball while their mothers gossip across the fence to their neighbors. I see an old town with a young attitude. Their culture is unique to New Orleans and gives the south a loud punch of color.

In an instant all this is washed away.

Three years later it is still gone.

In the center of a grass patch of land in the 9th ward stand three steps leading to nowhere. Crippled houses with sunken roofs and punched

in walls fill the rest of the neighborhood. The breeze from the sea, behind the mended levee creeps past my face and creates the only sound. It seems we entered a ghost town. Everything is dead: the grass, the animals, the culture, and the people.

Over three years have past since the hit of Hurricane Katrina and many parts of New Orleans, such as the 9th ward, have barely been touched.

Houses remain disheveled with the big black "X" on the side of the house displaying when it was inspected and the number dead.

Of the people who survived the storm, many still have not returned. Their homes and commu-

nities are in shambles and they do not have the money to build them back up. This is not to say that there have not been efforts to rebuild. Still there is much work to be done.

At first when I heard that Hillel was hosting an Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans I was surprised that effects of Katrina were still apparent. Still I was eager to help and experience first hand the culture that keeps the people of New Orleans hanging on. Hillel partnered with the St. Bernard project for an alternative spring break trip. Initially I hadn't heard much about the St. Bernard project, as it hadn't gained nearly as much

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admit to shameless people-watching being a favorite past time of mine. So why not take up a constructive alternative to "bowing your head awkwardly," and offer your observers a sincere smile and a hello? I am willing to bet you that those tense-looking people whom you've construed as your harshest critics are similarly worried about what you are thinking of them. Their concern over your judgment, in addition to last week's exam and next week's date, are the more likely causes for those edgy looks that you perceive as threatening. In reality, most people are simply far too preoccupied with their own lives to even take notice of your new outfit or haircut. If you won't buy that and are truly certain that you are being scrutinized on your "runway," it is sadly just the case that some people feel the need to look down on others in order to bestow a sense of worthiness upon themselves. Fortunately I have come across few such people at Muhlenberg. If this truly is the situation, however, then isn't that an awful shame for them?

Although it's nice to offer your equally-in-need-of-validation-peers a warm smile, it is even more important that you offer that smile to the people who have spent the last four hours putting lunch meat and spreading mayo on Kaiser rolls. Any such individuals that you can find would be great, but I do happen to be speaking specifically of the GQ staff. Our GQ staff, which you so un-empathetically criticize, are a few of the many

people who do their utmost to provide Muhlenberg students with the finest possible circumstances. Let us briefly pause for an important reality check: we are part of a minute minority that has the means to attend such an institution with its abundance of spectacular resources. We live in an environment where there is a large team of people whose job it is to think up and execute all of the ways to provide us with the most enriched college experience possible. It is no secret that the Muhlenberg staff does so with an extraordinary sense of devotion as well as concern for the personal well being of each member of the college community.

The GQ employees, who are especially known for their friendly and attentive nature towards each individual, are certainly no exception. You imply that you are offended by the phrasing "what do you want" when the GQ staff member asks for your order.

Have you stopped to consider the wording and tone with which you are speaking to them? You say that while in the GQ your usual objective is merely to get on with whatever you need to get done. Do you imagine that the staff, with ten hungry people in the sandwich line behind you, feels any differently?

It is not in the job requirement of either the student or the GQ worker to go above and beyond their duty, and be particularly personable in conversation. It is simply nice. It is simply nice when each afternoon the woman at the deli counter asks me with concern whether I would

like extra cheese to compensate for the meat that I forgo as a vegetarian. And again, it is simply nice when each late night weekend the women at the register laugh and dance with me to the music playing. So if you feel the lack of warmth that makes for a better environment, why not take the initiative? If there's one thing I've learned about warmth, my dear friends, it's that it's tremendously contagious.

The Seegers Union, from its cozy couches surrounding the crackling fire place, to the resourceful info desk employees who safely return our lost berg IDs, is a comfortable and magnificent environment for us 'Berg-i-ens to relax in and enjoy.

The GQ staff significantly contributes to this atmosphere by far exceeding their rudimentary responsibilities. Though passing through this limelighted space is incorporated in all of our daily routines, it is imperative that we do not allow ourselves to take it for granted. So yes, I often choose Seegers over the newly bestowed warm springtime air. I do so because the Seegers Union is a space created for enjoying enriching conversations and friendly hugs with fellow students, staff members, and the occasional "hat lady." In conclusion, I'd like to express my hope. I genuinely hope that you can put aside your ketchup-packet-size and allotted-meal-swipe-amount pride, and fully appreciate an amusing chat and some Wednesday night stir fry. Besides, my quite apprehensive new friends, you can always just use your flex.



## ORLEANS FROM PAGE 4

press as Habitat for Humanity and Brad Pitt's "Make It Right" project. However, once I learned more about the program and their mission, the rest of the group and I grew attached and passionate about the projects continuing progress.

The St. Bernard Project is based in St. Bernard Parish, right beside New Orleans. The neighborhoods are made up of working class families. After the storm 100% of the homes were deemed uninhabitable. Liz McCartney and Zack Rosenberg had volunteered in St. Bernard Parish after the storm. They were so moved by the motivation of the St. Bernard residents to rebuild their community that they founded the St. Bernard Project in March 2006.

Since then the organization has been impressively successful. With the price of rebuilding a house at \$12,000 per house, in 12 weeks, the St. Bernard project has been able to rebuild more than Habitat for Humanity and Brad Pitt's "Make it Right" Project combined. When we were down there I, and a few other group members, had the opportunity to put the finishing touches (including my first lawn mowing) on the projects 200th home. Members from President Obama's cabinet were visiting the following day to officially recognize the projects successes.

Our experience with the St. Bernard Project has connected our group and the Muhlenberg community to the organization. Also, it has linked us to the larger project of resurrecting the old New Orleans that it was once famous for.

Jason Steinberg '11 traveled with our group to New Orleans for a second time. According to him, "This was my second year traveling to New Orleans for spring break. Last year, I developed a thirst for aiding a city suffering from racism, marginalization and a dearth of government intervention and direction.

This year that thirst was not only temporarily quenched, but my allegiance to New Orleans was reaffirmed. Truth: there are many horrible situations needing our help around the world; but none more important than the one in our own backyard that unfortunately appears to be neglected every day. It does not make the papers or news.

Everyone should have some impact on rebuilding one of the most culturally rich and diverse cities in our country. 'NOLA is rising' and we should all be a part of it."

In this spirit, our group and Muhlenberg College have proudly accepted the title of becoming the pilot school for a St. Bernard Project chapter on college campuses. It seems the enthusiasm in our group is still brightly ignited. We have already begun planning Shabbat services and Seegers activities to promote the importance of this mission. On behalf of the group I would like to thank the school and Student Government for helping us fund our trip and bring awareness back to campus.

Our last night in New Orleans Dean Green took us to a famous jazz club called Tipitanas. The club was celebrating the 81st birthday of Fats Domino. The first act was a group of middle to high school aged kids. They puffed out their cheeks and let out the sounds that used to carry their grandparents from their seats to the dance floor. In those moments it was impossible not to let go. I let my body move how it wanted and somehow, being a stranger to New Orleans, felt I could slip in, and by dancing be a part of the culture. At the end of their set, the host asked us to give a round of applause for the future of New Orleans. So lets clap for them, and work to give them a future that mimics New Orleans' vivacious past.

## OBAMA FROM PAGE 3

even be argued that tax breaks are simply a type of handout, and cannot provide employment boosts that our country desperately needs.

Obama was handed an enormous mess when he entered the White House. Unfortunately for him, there is no option that can improve all economic indicators in the near future; he simply has to pick his poison. That being said, I believe Obama's plan is one of the best possible choices he could have made: injecting as much buying power back into the hands of businesses, employers, and banks.

The downside, of course, is the amount of debt the government will take in. With the original \$787 billion proposed plan, along with additional stimulus plans passed for healthcare, the cost could easily top one trillion dollars. As enormous as this stimulus may be, it is an absolute necessity to prevent the vicious downward cycles of banking capital, declining asset prices, falling home prices, and a weakening financial system that prevents borrowing and spending. This stimulus could prevent up to an additional \$10 trillion dollars in decline. America cannot afford to lose another five to ten million jobs based on the current state of the economy. This economic stimulus is literally a re-investment throughout America, and I can absolutely guarantee that the long-run benefits that the stimulus bill will provide outweigh the short-term costs, which most Republicans cannot seem to keep their eye off of.

In reality, Obama's stimulus plan will increase the national debt by about 10%, from \$10.9 trillion to an estimated \$12 trillion (not including the additional budget deficient handed down by President Bush). As history

# Bringing Down Bobby

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Many Americans' first encounter with Bobby Jindal, the Republican governor of Louisiana, was during the Republican response to President Obama's address to Congress. This address was panned by nearly everyone on all three major cable news channels, including some commentators on conservative Fox News. Truth be told, he struck me less as the second coming of Ronald Reagan - a proposition that excites most Republicans - than he did as the second coming of Mr. Rogers. He sounded like a kindergarten teacher talking to students during story time.

As someone who has a keen political ear, however, I've known of Jindal for months before his response to Obama. I apologize to the late Mr. Rogers for making a comparison to Jindal, as Bobby is nowhere near the compassionate person that the PBS show host was. I have not felt such a strong hatred for a politician since Rick Santorum left the Senate, as I feel that his extreme right-wing views are offensive and harmful to a state like Louisiana.

Bobby Jindal was born Piyush Jindal in Louisiana as the son of Indian immigrants. At some point in his life, he converted from Hinduism to Catholicism, which strikes me as odd, as Hinduism is a fascinating religion. That being said, having faith in God is not a deal-killer for me in a politician. He went to Brown University for college, and it was here that his faith took a turn for the bizarre. There, he wrote a detailed account of how he performed an exorcism with two campus Christian groups on a friend. While this is a strange thing to write about at length, that alone is not a good excuse for hating a politician.

It is his view on many issues,

which I feel are far right, that anger me about Jindal. He supported the death penalty for certain sex offenders, which, while a holdover from the previous administration, is not only horrifying but also goes against legal precedent that says that it can only be administered for certain criminal charges. When the Supreme Court rightfully ruled this unconstitutional, Jindal was not satisfied and signed legislation that would allow courts to chemically castrate some sex offenders. This eye-for-an-eye treatment not only may violate the Constitution by being cruel and unusual punishment (that's for the courts to decide), but it is the same punishment that we criticize other societies, like Iran, for doing.

In a state that is continually among the poorest and least educated in the Union, Jindal pushes a counterproductive agenda. He pushes for a creationism-based curriculum in science and is a big booster for charter schools, which aim to displace public education. He has cut spending for state social services that many people depend on for their day-to-day lives. And lest we forget, New Orleans is still suffering from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, as parts of it are largely poor and crime-ridden. These policies are ultimately damaging to New Orleans and other poor areas of the state.

Even after his disastrous performance in responding to Obama, Republicans still float the idea of him running for the presidency in 2012. In a straw poll at the CPAC convention, he came in second behind Mitt Romney and ahead of Ron Paul and Sarah Palin. We've already seen the bad results that occurred under our previous conservative president, and I wouldn't look forward to a Jindal administration that would probably be even worse.

shows, however, it is the Republican Party that has been fiscally irresponsible. Almost 80% of the current national debt belongs to Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush, who both cut taxes too low and maintained budgets too high. Once the economy turns around, the Obama Administration has vowed to reduce the national debt, by increasing taxes on the wealthy and cutting spending on inefficient government programs. Looking at the history books, the Republicans have no right to complain about the budget deficit; in fact, they are lucky that they do not have to dress for work in clown suits.

I am curious how Coughlin would solve this severe financial crisis. Doing nothing would be like the doctor telling his one-legged patient to cut off the other leg for balance. A cheaper stimulus plan would not be sufficient enough to solve the magnitude of the housing, banking, and financial sectors of the economy. Tax cuts are not enough to promote confidence in the market and bring spending power back to its citizens...not to mention that cutting taxes also costs a lot of money. So go ahead, pick your poison.

The stimulus package will not be perfect. With massive amounts of money being pounded into the economy, debate is up for grabs on what the stimulus should contribute to. In my opinion, direct job growth is the most important. The government will also have to work closely with the Federal Reserve to maintain low interest rates and continue to make it easier for banks to borrow and loan. Finally, the Obama Administration will have to work hard on financial regulation. Never again should we have to witness such a leverage crisis that caused Wall Street firms to strap dynamite to their chests.



## CITIZENSHIP | FROM PAGE 1

in the South were still not allowed to vote due to taxes and illiteracy tests even though the fourteenth amendment allowed it.

For American Indians, the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 declared across the board that all American Indians were now citizens. This was also the time when Asians were not allowed to immigrate to the U.S. This was a part of the Immigration Act of 1924 which, according to Dr. Rosen, "Effectively shaped the whole racial and ethnic make-up of this country. If this law had not been in place in 1924 the ratio in this country would be completely different."

It was not until 1965, Dr. Rosen went onto

explain, that the immigration laws for the country were altered. The laws now allowed significant immigration, mostly of Asians, to the U.S. This resulted in a huge change in the demographics of the country.

Moving onto the twenty-first century, Dr. Rosén said that undeniable strides have been made and that President Obama is an obvious example of that. Also, an acceleration of claims to land by American Indians can be seen. It is not like in the past when they were allotted specific land. Now they are trying to reclaim the land that is rightfully theirs based on the history of their tribes and they land that belonged to those specific tribes.

Today there are still limitations of whiteness

though, Dr. Rosen explained. Racial profiling has emerged to the forefront especially after Sept., 11. As one example, she said that there are accounts that say that people who look to be of Middle Eastern descent are more likely to be picked up by the police rather than the stereotypical white person. This gives yet another example of the difficulties in determining whiteness, even today in a society that has made so many strides.

Dr. Rosen's presentation effectively shed light on the history of race and citizenship in the United States. By outlining and detailing the major acts regarding race and citizenship that have been put into place throughout history, Dr. Rosen delivered an informative and compelling lecture.

# Queerfest a success

By Jana Efenbein  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Gay Straight Alliance hosted its annual "Queerfest" this past week and it was an enormous success. Holding events from the Drag Ball to a transgender solo performance by S. Bear Bergman, the GSA filled the week with education and entertaining affairs. The main goal of Queerfest is to educate the College community as well as the Allentown community about sex in a fun and innovative manner. By holding new events each year, GSA hopes to have a positive effect on the community as well as inform college students about sex in an entertaining and captivating way. Co-President Alex Breiding comments, "Each event should have taught different things, each equally important, about the queer community."

On Monday night, members of GSA went to the different residential halls on campus and dorm-stormed with loads of baked goods. GSA wanted to advertise all of the events that were taking place that week as well as solicit donations in exchange for the baked goods to help raise money for their club.

The Sextival, a sexual festival that is themed around sexual health, took place on Tues., Mar. 10 in Seegers. This event has been a part of Queerfest for quite some time and it was the biggest success of the week, drawing between 100 and 150 people throughout the night.

The Allentown Women's Center, along with GSA, put this event together and answered questions regarding sex and took part in the games as well. Inventive, amusing games were presented for guests to play as a way of learning important information about sex. This includes many contests such as blind-folded lubricant taste-testing, blind-folded pin-the-finger-on-the-clitoris. There were also raffles for sex toys and educational DVD's. Breiding stated, "The Sextival was aimed to educate the students on their own sexual health and to make them more comfortable communicating with others about

the subject."

"Monday Night in Westbrook," a solo performance featuring S. Bear Bergman focused on a comedy about the Holocaust from a Jewish, as well as from a queer perspective, took place on Thurs., Mar. 12. Bergman is one of the leading transgender performers in America as well as a writer, gender-jammer, lecturer, and activist. Breiding asserted, "The transgender community is often times overlooked at queer events, so the GSA felt that it was of great importance to include Bear in the QueerFest." Along with the Gay Straight Alliance, this program was co-sponsored by Campus Progress, Student Activities, and Hillel. All of these groups were honored to have such a prominent guest perform at the College. Around 50 people attended this event including students, staff, and members of the Allentown community. Adrian Shanker asserted, "The audience was overwhelmingly amazed by the performance!"

This was the most serious event of the week as it connected the identity of being Jewish during the Holocaust and being queer in today's society. Breiding remarked, "The performance by Bear was in hopes of showing the connections between gender, sex, religion, and race."

Bergman explores the intersecting worlds of art, individuality, confrontation, and discrimination.

He touches upon the constant struggle of being queer in today's society, where conservative values trample on unconventional behavior and beliefs. While conducting the performance in a storytelling manner, Bergman's diversified per-



Rachel Kitch '11 and Adrian Shanker '09 pose with S. Bear Bergman, one of the main performers at Queerfest.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JANA ELFENBEIN

formance captivates the audience with a prayer for the dead along with a song-and-dance segment.

The notorious Drag Ball occurred on Fri., Mar. 13 in the Great Room. This event consisted of music and dancing, and was a general great time. Many people came dressed in Drag and danced in free heteronormativity.

Celebrating the attention and success of the Queerfest events, GSA is already beginning to plan more events that will occur this semester. In April, the GSA is hosting another talk and discussion about gender, sex, and race.

Next semester, GSA is proud to invite Scott Turner Schoffield, a transgender performer, to Muhlenberg's campus. Breiding stated, "As the GSA co-president, I am hoping to make the GSA a more inclusive group by opening its arms to every individual who wants to make a difference here at Muhlenberg and in our communi-

ty. I also plan to make strides towards showing the interconnectedness of race, gender, sex, and sexuality through lecturers and other events." GSA is excited for their upcoming events and pleased with the success of Queerfest 2009.

*"Inventive, amusing games were presented for guests to play as a way of learning important information about sex."*



# The Hillel House Project

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

John and Barbara Heffer, parents of Alison Heffer '96, have made a pledge to name the office of Patti Mittleman, Jewish chaplain and director of Hillel. Similarly, Barry and Sindy Liben have pledged to name the new lobby of Hillel, which will be called the Liben Lobby. "My family likes the alliteration," joked their daughter, Becca Liben '12.

Although Becca and Alison's Muhlenberg experiences have more than fifteen years between them, Hillel is their common thread. These two gifts, which were made to name key spaces in the new Hillel House, are a testament to how strong their bonds are to Jewish life at the College. Becca is still a freshman, and with three more years left of her Muhlenberg experience, but she has already made a home away from home out of Hillel. She has already committed to being a Hillel volunteer and often goes beyond her allotted hours to work there or to just hang out. "Hillel is very much a home at Muhlenberg," remarked Becca.

Becca's father, Barry Liben, revealed that he made the gift for two reasons, "but the bottom line is: Rebecca believes in it, therefore I have to support it," he said. He also noted that the College's Hillel is an exceptional place for Jewish life to flourish and that "a working, effective Hillel like the one at Muhlenberg is exceptional. It just doesn't exist at other schools."

Becca also explained why she feels Hillel is so important to her. It is a place on campus where people can come and feel at home whether they are Jewish or not.

Ali Heffer had her sights set on Ithaca College until her high school guidance counselor urged her to visit Muhlenberg. She attended the College's freshman orientation where she also went to Bagel Brunch, one of Hillel's most popular activities. She immediately fell in love with the open and warm environment and said that throughout her experience at the College, "Patti became a second mother to me."




Ali's parents, John and Barbara Heffer, said that "Both Patti Mittleman and Hillel were an important part of our daughter's undergraduate

experience," and they further explained that they chose to acknowledge those commitments with a leadership gift commitment of their own. Like Becca, Ali was extremely involved in Hillel when she was a student at the College. In addition to and because of her service and leadership in Hillel, Ali was a recipient of the Morton and Myra Levy Leadership Award. A stipulation of the award is that students give back, so Ali taught at the JCC in her spare time.

Ali expressed similar sentiments as her parents, saying, "Hillel wouldn't be what it is without Patti. She has literally done things like drive to New York City to see me if I'm having a bad day. I'm so happy that Hillel is the focus of a fundraising initiative and that my family can name Patti's office. She encourages people to dream; we truly are part of each other's families."

Though Becca is only a freshman and Alison is over ten years out, Hillel is and was such an integral part of both of their experiences their parents felt compelled to make six-figure gifts to the Hillel expansion and renovation project.

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Showers
High: 47	High: 48	High: 47
Low: 30	Low: 34	Low: 30

## College Democrats elect new board; Endorse Mayor Ed Pawlowski

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

On Mon., Mar. 9 the College Democrats elected a new board to lead the group. Former Co-Presidents Adrian Shanker and Jon Rosenau had a successful and exciting three years leading the group, especially with the recent historical Presidential Election season. The College Democrats elected Steve Motschwiller '12 as their new President and re-elected Allyson Margolis '11 to her current role as Vice President.

The new board led the group in their first course of action: a vote which resulted in the endorsement of the campaign to re-elect Mayor Ed Pawlowski for a second term in office. Pawlowski, who has a single challenger, former school board member Dick Nepon, won over the support of the group through his consistent work with the College Democrats over the past four years as well as his willingness to seek student input on certain local issues. Nepon, on the other hand, did not fill out the College Democrats' endorsement questionnaire.

"We are proud to endorse Mayor Ed Pawlowski in his quest for a second term," Motschwiller stated. "Throughout the past year, we have seen the Mayor directly work with Muhlenberg students on a number of different issues and we know that he is the right person for Allentown." In addition, the College Democrats have issued endorsements for Mike D'Amore and Mike Schlossberg to the Allentown City Council.

Muhlenberg College as an institution does not endorse political candidates or parties. Student organizations, however, are allowed to make partisan endorsements. The College Democrats are recognized as a student organization at the College and therefore serve as a vital force in local Democratic politics. The College Democrats hold a substantive voting block in the West End of Allentown, as nearly a quarter of the Student Body are locally registered as Democrats. This was clearly demonstrated by an 85% student voter turnout in the 2008 General Election which was recorded by the College Democrats.

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

Email

kf235779@muhlenberg.edu OR jb236317@muhlenberg.edu



# Public relations, advertising, marketing panel to be held

By Rachel Albert  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

The College Communication Club is hosting a Public Relations/Marketing/Advertising Panel on Mon., Mar. 23, 2009 at 7 p.m. in Seegers 113. Four professionals currently working in the field of communications will be in attendance. Expected to speak are, Molly Brown, Gwen Hoover, Jillian Lowery, and Marilyn Roberts. A question and answer session will follow.

Molly Brown, Director of Marketing and Public Relations for the Wescoe School, is responsible for the targeting, marketing, advertising, publications, and publicity efforts for the Wescoe School and Muhlenberg Study programs. Her previous experience includes Promotions Operations Director at Rodale Inc., Promotion Manager at *Mens Health Magazine*, publicity for DeSales University, Communications Director at J.M. Lamm Associates in Allentown, P.A., as well as freelance work for a wide array of publications. Brown has a B.A. in Journalism from Moravian College and over 25 years of experience in advertising, editorial, research, promotions, and public relations on local, regional, and national

levels.

Gwen Hoover, Director of Public Relations at Altitude Marketing in Emmaus, PA, specializes in helping entrepreneurial and small-business clients develop their message campaigns through a variety of proven grass-roots approaches. Her diverse PR experience also includes the health and fitness community, restaurants, economic development organizations, and high-tech start-up companies, among many others. For nine years prior to joining Altitude, Hoover ran Kestrel Communications, a national PR marketing firm specializing in technology companies. An engineer from the University of Pennsylvania, Hoover worked in tech development and tech sales before becoming attracted to the PR and marketing side of the equation. She also served as the Director of Marketing at the Lehigh Valley Velodrome.

Jillian Lowery is the College's Director of Communications, a position she has held for almost five years. She is responsible for the coordination and distribution of all press releases and other forms of publicity for campus events, as well as handling local media requests. Additionally, she serves as editor of *Muhlenberg Magazine*, the College's alumni publication.

Lowery graduated from Muhlenberg in 2000 with a B.A. in English and a concentration in non-fiction writing. Prior to returning to the College, she worked in public relations for the publishing industry and for a non-profit mental healthcare provider.

Marilyn Roberts is the Director of Marketing and Development for the College Department of Theatre and Dance. She is responsible for creating the publications, program books, and marketing to support the production work of the department, as well as managing web sites, scheduling outreach and residency events, and managing fund-raising efforts and public relations. She holds a B.S. in Education from Shippensburg University and an M.A. and postgraduate work from Michigan State University. In addition to a career in education, she has been artistic director of a community theatre, board president of a multi-disciplinary art gallery, editor of a local arts publication, and a member of the Allentown Arts Commission for the City of Allentown. She is a founding member of the Lehigh Valley Marketing Task Force and serves of the board of directors of The Theatre Outlet.

**MENTAL HEALTH | FROM PAGE 1** to cope with depression. Ms. Kreeger offered a gift to the audience in her comfort with the subject.

Diane Kreeger, Jacob's Mom, followed, emitting an observational point of view on the topic. Having gone through her own personal experience beginning in the 1970's when "people didn't know about mental health; people didn't know how to deal with it." Mrs. Kreeger stated that she had seen much, both from her daughter and from her own point of view. Remembering one example from her teen years, Mrs. Kreeger said she "could remember sitting in her room, listening to music, just trying to find some peace of mind - and even *that* was looked at as off-color."

Continuing on to emphasize that her son had seen it all too, Mrs. Kreeger pointed out that "hell had been visited" on several occasions

through her daughter's experiences. "It's a series of times I'd never like to have to deal with again, but I know now, through what I've learned and allowed myself to learn, that I can handle it... we all can." Mrs. Kreeger went on to say that the bottom line was awareness: awareness of yourself, awareness in the community, and awareness put into action.

Given the intensity of the speaker's experiences, guests were eager to ask well throughout, discussion-provoking questions on the topic. Staying for two hours after the event, both Mother and Daughter Kreeger stayed to answer questions and talk more intimately, one-on-one, with interested guests.

A well-attended night, "Women and Mental Health" has inspired students to continue talking about the topic well after the event. The next Active Minds sponsored event will be held in April. To get involved, or for more information please contact [bergactiveminds@gmail.com](mailto:bergactiveminds@gmail.com).



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# Easter Break

## College Housing is Closing!!!

All college owned houses, apartments and residence halls are closing on Thursday, April 9th at 6:00 pm and will reopen on Monday, April 13th at 10:00 am. There will be no access before 10:00 AM

The only students permitted to stay or return early to campus from break are:

- ◆ Academic responsibility (ie: student teaching)
- ◆ International Students
- ◆ Students living more than 300 miles from campus
- ◆ Athletes with WRITTEN permission from their coach

A "Request To Stay Over Break Form" must be submitted by every student who stays, even if you are in one of the above categories. Forms are available at the Office of Residential Services website and are due by Monday, March 30th.



## Correction!

In the Feb. 26 issue, the article "S.T.A.N.D. hosts Doctors Without Borders contributor Dr. Jerry Ehrlich," Dr. Ehrlich was incorrectly associated with Doctor Without Borders, as he is no longer an official representative of the organization. Dr. Ehrlich's views as expressed in the article are his alone and are not reflective of or endorsed by Doctors Without Borders. Additionally, Doctors Without Borders is not directly affiliated with the Save Darfur Coalition. We apologize for these oversights.



## Student Government has joined Facebook!

Friend us now to learn more about our latest:

- Initiatives
- Events
- Special Meetings
- Election News

Ask us questions & join the discussions today!

## Campus Safety Notes

Feb. 24 - Injured Employee - In the Life Sports Center, an employee injured an eye. The employee was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 24 - Institutional Vandalism - In Prosser Hall, there was a report of vandalism in the stairwell with names written on the wall. Pictures were taken of the damage. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 24 - Vehicle Violation - In the front drive, an officer booted a vehicle. The vehicle had a total of 12 unpaid parking tickets. The boot was later removed after the owner contacted the Controller's Office about payment.

Feb. 24 - Vehicle Violation - In the front drive, an unregistered vehicle with five unpaid tickets was parked illegally. An officer booted the vehicle.

An officer later removed the boot after the owner contacted the Controller's Office about payment.

Feb. 24 - Found Property - At the Trexler Library, B Level, a reporting party found marijuana in a room in the library. The item was placed in the evidence locker until it can be destroyed. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 25 - Sick Student - At Phi Kappa Tau, a student was feeling ill. The Health Center and Muhlenberg College EMS were paged. The student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 25 - Larceny/Theft - In the sorority parking lot, an orange parking sticker was removed from a vehicle. A new sticker was issued. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 25 - Unauthorized

Person/People - In the Trexler Library, C Level, there was a report of a person viewing pornographic material on the computer. The person was identified as an older black male, wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt. The individual, a non-student was located and identified. The person was issued a trespass letter and the individual left the campus. There was no further incident.

Feb. 25 - Found Property - In the Seegers Union parking lot, a wallet was found. The student's home was called and a message was left. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Feb. 25 - Disturbance - In Prosser Hall Main, third floor, a reporting party had a problem with a student and requested an officer. The officer spoke with the student. There was no further incident. Referred to

Residential Services.

Feb. 26 - Sick Student - In Prosser Hall, a student was vomiting. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were paged. The student was transported to the hospital.

Feb. 26 - Sick Student - In Prosser Hall Main, third floor, there was a report of a sick student who was vomiting. Muhlenberg College EMS transported the student to the Health Center and then transported the student to the hospital.

Feb. 26 - Larceny/Theft - In Seegers Union, lower level, there was a report of a theft of ten pounds of flank steak from a walk-in cooler. There are no suspects at this time.

Feb. 26 - Lost Property - A student reported a lost iPod video on campus.

Feb. 26 - Noise Complaint - In Prosser Hall Main, third floor, a student complained to Campus Safety regarding a noise complaint. The officer had the student turn the music down. Housing will be notified.

Feb. 27 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost two-way radio belonging to Plant Operations.

Feb. 27 - Found Property - In the 26 St and Chew St parking lot, a reporting party turned in a pair of jumper cables. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Feb. 27 - Lost Property - A student reported losing an iPod.

Feb. 27 - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia - In Walz Hall, third floor, there was a report of a found



homemade bong with marijuana while checking rooms. The item was placed in the evidence locker. Referred to judicial.

Feb. 27 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - At 2201 Chew St, a reporting party found alcohol in the common room and also a burnt candle. The item was placed in the evidence locker and referred to the Dean of Students.

Mar. 2 - Found Property - In East Hall, block A, first floor, a student ID card was turned in. Attempts were made to contact owner. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Mar. 4 - Found Property - An ID card was found at Wegman's. The item was placed in the evidence locker until the student can be notified.

Mar. 5 - Injured Employee - A Campus Safety officer took an injured Plant Operations employee to the doctor.

Mar. 5 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 417 Leh St, a fire alarm sounded. A student called and reported that smoke from cooking caused the alarm.

Mar. 6 - Larceny/Theft - At the Center for the Arts, there was a theft of a purse. The suspect is a white male, light brown crew cut style hair, clean shaven, medium build, approximately six feet tall, in his twenties, wearing a royal blue windbreaker type jacket with a hoodie, blue jeans, and white sneakers with a stripe on the side. The suspect fled east on Chew St with the purse in his right hand. The suspect was seen later on camera but unidentified at this time. Plant Operations was notified for a lock change due to a campus key being stolen.

Mar. 9 - Found Property - A state identification card was found in the Life Sports Center and was brought to the front desk. The item was picked up by Allentown Police Department.

Mar. 9 - Suspicious Activity - In Walz Hall, third floor, a student returning from Spring Break reported that someone was in the room. The room was

checked and nothing was taken. A lock change was done.

Mar. 9 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 429 N. 23 Street, a student reported that the carbon monoxide detector went off. The fire department responded as well as Plant Operations. It appears that the unit may have malfunctioned and was replaced by Plant Operations. Students are reminded to evacuate upon activation of these alarms and call Campus Safety.

Mar. 10 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In Robertson Hall, third floor, a fire alarm sounded due to burnt food. The system was silenced and reset with no further incident.

Mar. 10 - Illegally Parked Vehicle - At the Keck House, a vehicle was found with excessive tickets and was not registered. The vehicle was booted. The boot was later removed after the individual spoke with the Controller's Office.

Mar. 10 - Found Property - At the football stadium, two pairs of track shoes were found hanging on the inside fence. The items were brought to the Campus Safety office and placed in the evidence lockers.

Mar. 10 - Injured Student - In Brown Hall, third floor, a student reported that they fell and had been injured. Muhlenberg College EMS responded. The student refused further medical treatment.

Mar. 10 - Plumbing Problem - At 2255 Turner St, building #3, the hot water heater main line into the water heater broke. Altomose was called and Plant Operations was able to replace the main pipe, but was unable to get the water heater to work. The part will be ordered. Housing was notified of the issue. The water heater was eventually repaired.

Mar. 11 - Institutional Vandalism - At the Plant Operations building, there was a report of vandalism to a hand scan machine. Glass was scratched. There are no suspects at this time.

Mar. 11 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and

Transportation - In Martin Luther Hall, first floor, there was a sick visitor. Alcohol was involved. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the person was taken to the hospital.

Mar. 11 - Fire/Safety Violation - In Martin Luther Hall, fourth floor, there was a report of a smoke detector sounding from smoke from a hookah. The item was taken and placed in the evidence lockers. Referred to Judicial.

Mar. 12 - Sick Student - In Robertson Hall, second floor, there was a report of a sick student. Alcohol was involved. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were notified. Allentown EMS responded to the scene. The student was transported to the hospital.

Mar. 12 - Found Property - In the Center for the Arts, there was a report of a found cell phone. The item was placed in the evidence lockers.

Mar. 12 - Drug Possession - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, a homemade bong was found along with two small bags with one containing little vegetable matter. The items were placed in the evidence lockers. There are no suspects at this time.

Mar. 12 - Sick Student - In Seegers Union, upper level, there was an injured student. The student was taken to the Health Center to see the doctor.

Mar. 12 - Lost Property - In Ettinger Hall, second floor, a reporting party called to report a lost jacket. An officer located the jacket and brought it back to Campus Safety. The item was later taken to Wescoe School for the owner to pick it up.

Mar. 12 - Motor Vehicle Accident - At the 26 St and Chew St parking lot, there was a report of a motor vehicle accident. Information was exchanged and both parties stopped at Campus Safety to pick up copies of the report for insurance purposes.

Mar. 12 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 414 Albright St, a fire alarm sounded. It is unknown why the alarm

went off. The system was silenced and reset with no further incident.

Mar. 12 - Lost Property - At Seegers Union, upper level, an ATM card was left in the ATM machine. The owner went back to the machine, but the card was not there. The student was advised to cancel the card.

Mar. 13 - Noise Complaint - At 2442 Tilghman St, there was a noise complaint of students being very loud. A disruptive conduct report will be issued and referred to the Dean of Students.

Mar. 13 - Larceny/Theft - On the front drive, an officer reported a Muhlenberg flag was missing in front of the College Center. Plant Operations verified that it was stolen. There are no suspects at this time.

Mar. 13 - Suspicious Activity - At N. 23 Street, there was a report of a suspicious person who spoke with a student. The officer spoke with the student and there has been no further incident.

Mar. 13 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2267 Turner St, building #4, first floor, a fire alarm sounded due to steam from a shower. The system was silenced and reset with no further incident.

Mar. 13 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In the Trexler Library, a reporting party found empty alcohol bottles in the garbage. The items were placed in the evidence lockers. There are no suspects at this time.

Mar. 13 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In Seegers Union, a fire alarm sounded. An unknown person set off a fire extinguisher. Allentown Fire Department was called and responded. There was no further incident.

Mar. 14 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Walz Hall, first floor, a student was sick due to alcohol. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the student was transported to the hospital.

Mar. 14 - Suspicious Vehicle - On N. 22 St, while

on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle driving recklessly. Allentown Police Department arrived and the vehicle was followed to an off campus address with non-Muhlenberg individuals involved. The individual was arrested by Allentown Police Department for an outstanding warrant for protection from abuse.

Mar. 14 - Noise Complaint - On Liberty St, Allentown Communication Center reported a loud party. Allentown Police Department responded and a disruptive conduct report was issued and referred to the judicial process.

Mar. 14 - Suspicious Person - At Tau Kappa Epsilon, there was a report of individuals attempting to break into the building. Upon arrival, an officer spoke with two juvenile individuals who denied trying to gain access. The juvenile's information was taken. There was no further incident.

Mar. 15 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Walz Hall, third floor, there was a report of an intoxicated student found by an officer after responding to another incident. Muhlenberg College EMS and Allentown EMS were paged. The student was transported to the hospital. The incident was referred to the Dean of Students.

Mar. 15 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Seegers Union, there was an alcohol violation by an intoxicated student. Muhlenberg College EMS and Allentown EMS responded. The student was transported to the hospital. The Health Center was notified. A housekeeper changed the trash liner. The incident was referred to the Dean of Students.

Mar. 15 - Lost Property - In Prosser Hall, there was a report of a lost cell phone.

Mar. 15 - Injured Student - In Prosser Hall, there was an injured student. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were paged. The student was treated at the scene and informed to see the Health Center in the morning.



# Life!

"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood."

- Marie Curie

## Caw is Coming!

By Johnny Lively  
LIFE GUEST WRITER

The first theatre performance ever of *Caw* will run at the College on Mar. 26 – Mar. 29. According to the Muhlenberg Theatre Department, *Caw* integrates theatre and dance on stage in order to invoke "...the rich oral tradition of Southern storytelling, with its roots in both Native American and African Culture." The core of the piece, co-created by Charles O. Anderson and Troy Dwyer, "...is mystery, movement, character and ritual that emerge as an allegory of race and power in America. A fusion of dance, performance poetry, romantic fantasy, dramatic action, and audacious gay cultural expression, *Caw* assembles and disassembles cultural archetypes and stereotypes, molding them into a pantheon of vivid contemporary characters."

The creation of *Caw* was inspired by conversations between Anderson and Dwyer that centered around their youths spent growing up in the South.

Though both Anderson and Dwyer are Southerners, one is black and the other is white, which allowed them to create a diverse and well-formed dialogue that reflects many different facets of American culture.

Specifically, *Caw* focuses on the differences between the races and problems centering around sexuality, especially in terms of the trials and divides of the South.

Anderson, who is currently the artistic director of the Philadelphia-based dance theatre X and Director of African American Studies at the

College, and Dwyer, who is an actor, writer, and director, banded together to form "...a unique collaboration performed by a multicultural ensemble of twenty actors and dancers." Specifically, there will be diverse professional guest artists in the ensemble, including a performance poet, an actor, and two dancers, in addition to student performers.

*"Caw is '...a fusion of African-inspired dance and post-modern dance theatre."*

The dance style featured in *Caw* is described by the Theatre Department as "...a fusion of African-inspired dance and post-modern dance theatre that Anderson has been courting in his professional company, dance theater X. Bold, provocative, and intensely motivated by questions of identity and ethnicity, Anderson's choreography expresses a visual and soul-stirring journey."

Anderson, who was recently named "one of the most authoritative dancers on Philadelphia stages" by The Philadelphia Inquirer, began his work investigating the tale of Uncle Remus through the pursuit of Tar, who is "...the ancestor of this journey that *Caw* takes to bear witness to the history of race relations in cultural folklore."

Anderson refers to himself as a "kinetic storyteller," or one who "...seeks out stories that honor what he describes as Testimony in the movement, in poetry, in voice, and in character."

By testimony, Anderson is referring to "the declaration of truth integral to the African-American oral and literary tradition, going back to the slave narrative and folk practices." These testimonies can

both offer praise and shed light upon strife, but either way, their primary goal is "...to connect the audience to the personal truth of the teller(s). It is used to allow the storyteller to connect with those who hear the testimony, as well as to a higher plane of being."

Dwyer has co-written stage productions such as "Body of Knowledge" with Melissa Thompson and "Lures & Snares" with Beth Schacter and Mile Krisukas. In addition to writing and directing, Dwyer has held principle roles at theatres throughout the country.

According to the Theatre Department, "He is drawn to this project because it theatrically examines how popular myths reinforce social inequality in American culture," especially in terms of race.

The premise of *Caw* is based on

*"The creation of Caw was inspired by conversations between Anderson and Dwyer that centered around their youths spent growing up in the South."*

the folktale of Uncle Remus, which was published by journalist Joel Chandler Harris in 1879. According to the Theatre Department "...Recognizing the power of Disney popularization of the character, *Caw* returns Uncle Remus to authentic African folklore and then proceeds to weave his story into the lives of several seemingly unconnected characters.

The twisted tale turns on the powerful presence of Aunt Eloe, the mysterious Queen of Crows, who

has descended upon the earth to challenge history and work her own magic." Aunt Eloe is being performed by guest artist Ursula Rucket.

Along with Aunt Eloe, there is an army of forgotten spirits, referred to as Antagonists. One of these spirits is Xanthara, a well-known Atlanta drag queen who is caught between worlds. Xanthara is being performed by guest Equity Artist, Holly Cate. In addition, RJ Briarcliff, who is portrayed by Eric Thompson '10, is an African American writer who attempts to writes about the tale of Uncle Remus, and tries to save it from being compromised by popular media outlets such as Walt Disney. Also, Zachary Chiero '09 plays Bobby Driscoll, a man who is "drifting toward death," and encounters Michael Darling, played by Jeramie Mayes '12, who tries to teach Bobby the truth about Uncle Remus' tale, telling him at one point, "Don't let it be loneliness that kills us... Silence for celluloid. Different, but the same."

Also, Ami Dowden Fant and Karama Butler, who are members of Anderson's professional Philadelphia company dance theatre X, are featured in the performance company. Members of the ensemble include Kadeem Alston-Roman '12, Chris Alvaro '10, Jeremy Arnold '12, Elle Barks '10, Jason Daniel '09, Maggie Griffin '11, Karissa Harris '09, Tara Kalinisan '11, Denise Ozer '10, Tim Popp '09, Michele Sasso '10, and Emily Spadaford '12.

In addition, the faculty lighting designer is Curtis Dretsch, and the guest costume designer is Alisa Sickora Kleckner. Cat Davidson '10 is the assistant director and Deacon Harris '10 is scenic designer.

### Upcoming Event

Long Table Discussion: The Role of Citizenship in the Muhlenberg - Allentown Relationship

Thursday, March 19 at 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the Multicultural House

Enjoy an engaging conversation, doodling on table cloths, and free food!

This is a research component for a senior DANA project organized by Joelle Kross and Andrew Brown



## The Muhlenberg Effect: Knowing more about everyone than you ever wanted to

By Lucy Harker  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

If you haven't noticed, we attend a very, very small college - just over two-thousand in fact. I don't know about you, but I have heard a lot of interesting, shocking, disgusting and rather embarrassing facts about other students here. For the purposes of this article, I have coined a phrase to help explain this phenomenon. It's called "The Muhlenberg Effect."

Small schools create a close community of students. Given the fact that we have all made our own lives and our own friends within this close community, we spend a lot of time with a lot of the same people.

While this can be comforting, it can also pose awkward moments. In this situation, we are forced to learn things about people and are bound to see them at some point soon after we do hear these things. Frankly, it is quite difficult for me to look at a girl the same way after I've heard that she likes to make her own kind of music in the practice rooms in the CA.

You can sure attest to the horrifying realization that everyone knows everything about everyone here at Muhlenberg.

Somewhere along the line, you have probably said something about the girl from your introductory to statistics class, whom you absolutely despise, to some friend, not realizing that it would get back to her.

Yesterday, I was heading to Moyer via Academic Row in a daze, with my head down, trying to remember the details of the 27-page article I had read for class—and all of a sudden I felt a hand on my shoulder. He said, "Hey! I haven't seen you in a while! How's it going?" I stared at him in complete horror for a second and tried to figure out how I was going to converse with this kid without relinquishing what I knew about him.

But before I could redeem myself from my embarrassingly awkward reaction to this perfectly nice guy, I pictured him in bed with his girlfriend, a very close friend of mine, obsessing over her feet.

I can't help the fact that I know way too much about him. I know about his foot fetish. I know about the noises he makes while she goes down on him. I even know that his "O" face creepily resembles McCauley Culkin on

the *Home Alone* movie poster.

It was all over. I couldn't even look him in the eye. Instead of responding directly to the completely polite question that this boy asked me, I mumbled something inaudible to myself and continued to walk to class at a much faster pace than before.

I'm sure you've been in a situation like that at some point or another during your Muhlenberg career. It's not your fault you know.

Maybe your friend told you the morning after at brunch or even texted you "Hey, guess what?!" at three o'clock in the morning on a Sunday.

When is it appropriate and socially acceptable to tell our friends that we just don't want to know any more about their sex lives?

More importantly, how do we prevent future ridiculously uncomfortable encounters with people we know way too much about? More specifically, how am I supposed to keep a straight face around a guy who I know secretly cries after every sexual encounter?

I have no idea what the answers to those questions are, which is why I'm contemplating this right now.

But I do know that one of the reasons why you force yourself to smile, nod, and pretend that you want to know while you listen to a play-by-play of your best friend's weekend alone with her boyfriend is because that's supposedly what friends do. We're supposed to listen, to offer advice, and to remind each other that we are perfectly capable of beating up the less than gentlemanly guy who proved to be an asshole the other night.

I'm also pretty sure that sitting through a discussion about the nitty-gritty details of your friend's kinky sex life, especially when it involves another one of your friends, is not in your job description.

However, if you think you can stomach this particularly awkward topic and avoid embarrassment when confrontation undoubtedly occurs, I commend you. But when you finally run into the boy who you've heard had a crooked penis after avoiding him since you've heard, don't come crying to me.

## Some people just can't grope the idea

By Kevin Tomasura  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

It may come as quite a surprise, but I'll be honest with you, I am not much the sportsman. Though willing to participate in almost every form of game that involves sticks, balls, sharp things, slippery things, skirts, drowning, or good old chucking things that seem heavy and actually are, I'd prefer to do so in the arena of my mind, and in a much more casual sense.

Although I do enjoy a lovely pickup game of Segway polo, or its elephant riding cousin, over the years, I have limited my palette of potentially playable sports to the lawn (badminton, horseshoes, getting in and out of hammocks safely, putt-putt), video (Track and Field for NES was the best finger workout I'll ever get) and mind game (compulsive lying, battleship) varieties.

From time to time I do indulge in games of the run-away-from-or-after-things-quickly-and-for-a-long-time sort, but I recently given up the invisible rabbit chase that is track for a more metaphysical workout.

Nevertheless, this kind of attitude towards sports just won't cut it in today's society, and with constant evolution of what we consider to be entertainment, it's hard to keep up. I've become so despondent and out of touch with the wide world of sports, that my paradigm just won't shift and let me realize why people shifting gears for 500 laps around a concrete ellipse is a sport!

That does not however mean I didn't enjoy the movie *Cars*. I did. A lot. But call me a hopeless romantic or what you will; I just miss the old days where at least somebody got trampled by horses in a chariot race. Now that's entertainment, and this is all mildly beside the point.

The point is that being trapped in a twelve year-old-boy's body has really kept my eyes closed to the world.

Years ago, when that twelve year-old-boy's body was in fact an appropriate marker of my actual age, and I was a five foot, *mumble mumble*, inches lefty at bat, I had an appreciation for what sports had to offer.

Now that those days where kid pitchers would throw more balls at me than to me are over, I have lost sight of what's important. Sports have the profound ability to offer us amazing things, like... like confusing yet cliché metaphors. What I am talking about is the classic and beloved bases.

We all know them. Except actually most people don't, and will debate it for hours. The one thing we can agree on is that there is some great socio-cultural variation on the perspective of sex at the middle-school level.

Somehow, almost everyone has their own interpretation of these four bases, and for the most part they stay within normal, logical boundaries. I decided to do some research and remove myself from all bias, so I went to Wikipedia, where no such thing exists.

I was pleased to find the following results: first base is generally considered to be kissing involving cheese, wine and inflating your importance in certain American revolutions, also known as "French" kissing.

A double will score you second base, and a groping of the breasts. Wikipedia makes an important distinction however, and this consensual groping must be done affectionately and under the shirt.

For those who performed this over the shirt, try again. Hitting a triple will take you all the way to "contact down below". This also must be done underneath the clothing, and for those who foolishly attempted to perform oral sex through denim, I applaud you for your befuddling bravado. Fourth base, or home, or that base you score at in baseball, is considered to be sexual intercourse. There is no mention if this involves clothing, so I assume it counts if you are fully clothed.

Now, even with a cursory glance, this baseball metaphor seems a bit stretched, if not convoluted. Murky and quite quite vague, it neglects to overtly mention sexual acts that blur the boundaries, like anything you hope to God your mother didn't do. Most obviously, it fails to discriminate between even popular sexual acts, such as oral and the kind that gives you carpal tunnel. Even still, it grossly downplays the importance of other players on the field.

I know how it feels to be put in the outfield, and after all these years struggling with this metaphor, I've been wondering what I've stood for all these years. If all those bases mean something, than surely shouldn't I, my two outfield companions, the pitcher, the catcher and the mascot all stand for something as well? Are they not vital components to a working team after all? How in the hell did the MLB overlook such horrifying discrimination?

After pondering this issue for some time, the social crusader inside me decided to settle the debate once and

SEE GROPE  
PAGE 13

Battle  
of  
the Sexes



**GROPE**

FROM PAGE 12

for all.

To begin, I decided to start with a forced favorite of mine, right field. For those who don't know where right field is, or which direction right is for that matter, put the paper down, make two fists and extend your thumb and pointer finger on each hand.

You should see that one forms an L-shape, and the other also forms an L-shape if you're dyslexic. If you are not dyslexic, the one on the left will be your left. Now that you have determined which shape is an L and that you are stupid, proceed to lift both right angles and tighten them around your throat until asphyxiation occurs. Repeat as necessary.

Now that we are all caught up, one might notice that right field is placed behind but between first and second base. Hypothetically, if you, the reader, were the batter and had hit a potential double, you would find yourself in right field had you forgotten to ever turn and ran right past first.

By the baseball metaphor, this means that

somewhere between kissing and under the clothing groping, you got lost. In fact, you've found yourself in a wonderful little place called Frotteurville.

Frotteurism, formerly known as frottage, and also known as toucherism, is a common form of paraphilia.

No, this does not mean one has a particular sexual obsession with the paralyzed (that has another name I'm sure, but Wikipedia told no tales), but rather, paraphilia is simply a recurrent, intense sexual impulse that manifests itself in an unusual way with mentally, physically and especially socially damaging ramifications. These are diagnosed fetishes, and frotteurism is among them.

Frotteurism, as defined by the handbook of the American Psychiatric Association, the DSM-IV, has two main parts. A, this involves, "Recurrent, intense, or arousing sexual urges or fantasies, that involve touching and rubbing against a nonconsenting person" and B, "The person has acted on these sexual urges or fantasies, or they cause the person significant distress, to a degree they are disruptive

to everyday functioning". Quite simply this is grinding without a skateboard or Akon in the background.

While this seems trivial at best, this is a serious, and sadly, common form of sexual harassment. It has potential to exist everywhere, and strike at any time.

Talented frotteurs, as they are called, may bump into you, making you think they pick-pocketed you, when really, they were using you as a humping post. This occurs frequently in hectic and crowded places like at concerts, clubs or even in long lines at Disney World.

A world wide epidemic, frotteurism has indeed infected Japan, earning its own word, Chikan. Here, in the land of the rising sun, Chijo stalk their unsuspecting prey in the hustle and bustle of railway cars and crowded restaurants.

At the first sign of weakness, the chijo lunge at the opportunity, quite literally. So prevalent these attacks have become, that railway companies have reacted by creating women-only cars, hoping to make it impossible for male chijo to succeed in their dastardly

deeds.

The only problem is, that authorities have reacted so severely to this threat that the conviction rate in chases of chikan is a ridiculous 99.9%. With rates like this, the Japanese legal system seems particularly unreasonable and hardly fair when it comes to accurately and properly judging crimes.

This extreme bias is the cause of great controversy and now the topic of a feature length film called, *I Just Didn't Do It*. The movie follows the true story of an intense, five-year legal battle for one supposedly innocent office worker.

This is the shocking face of frotteurism. A sad but true tangent along the way from first to second, this anomaly in sexual normalcy is both perplexing and understandable. Though not respectable in any sense, frotteurism and groping have become a popular joke in places like Japan, where animes will use it quite commonly, despite its serious nature. In the end, this seems an inevitable product of today's crowded world, and sorry to say, but right field isn't the best position to play these days.

**AMC  
Weekend  
Listings**



**Duplicity**

Fri. 4:10, 7:10, 10:10  
Sat. 4:10, 7:10, 10:10  
Sun. 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

**I Love You, Man**

Fri. 4:20, 7:00, 9:40  
Sat. 4:20, 7:00, 9:40  
Sun. 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

**Knowing**

Fri. 4:40, 7:30, 10:30  
Sat. 4:40, 7:30, 10:30  
Sun. 4:40, 7:30, 10:30

**The Last House  
on the Left**

Fri. 5:10, 7:40, 10:15  
Sat. 5:10, 7:40, 10:15  
Sun. 5:10, 7:40, 10:15

**Paul Blart: Mall  
Cop**

Fri. 4:30, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:30, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:30, 6:50, 9:30

**Race to Witch  
Mountain**

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:20  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:20  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:20

**Taken**

Fri. 4:50, 7:20, 10:00  
Sat. 4:50, 7:20, 10:00  
Sun. 4:50, 7:20, 10:00

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:  
WHAT HIGH SCHOOL STEROTYPE  
WERE YOU?**



"The one and only maestro."  
- Nick Minnich, '11



"The white, Dutch Puerto Rican."  
- Jamaris DeJesus, '10



"The goth prom princess."  
- Taylor Johnson, '10



"The frugal Jew."  
- Sam Goodman, '12



"The emo-jock-playa-nerd-  
divalivious-lumberjack."  
- Gregg Paradis, '09

COMPILED BY ROBYN COHEN



# Watts your Bergtricity?

By Adam Bernstein  
WEEKLY LIFE EDITOR

The Muhlenberg College Environmental Action Team (EnAcT) is holding a dorm energy competition from Mar. 16 to Mar. 30. Students in the 15 campus dormitories will compete with one another to see who can reduce their energy consumption by the greatest percentage. EnAcT members have been working with the College's plant operations staff to calculate each dorm's average energy use (per student) over the past several weeks.

The competition challenges students to keep their dorm's daily energy use below the calculated average throughout the two week competition. Each day dorms will receive points if their energy use is below the average but lose points if it's above the average.

In addition to gaining points for reducing their energy use, students will also be able to gain extra points for their dorm by attending any number of environmentally themed events throughout the competition. EnAcT will be collaborating with a number of campus

groups (including Greek life, Hillel, and other student organizations) to engage the entire Muhlenberg community in the dorm competition.

At the end of the two weeks, the dorm with the most points will be declared the winner, and will receive an ice cream party with Dean Green and musical performances by various student musicians.

In addition, by attending the events throughout the two weeks students will be entered in raffles for any number of individual prizes, including grocery store gift cards, free movie tickets, \$25 in dining dollars, and more. It is EnAcT's hope that by participating in this competition, students will learn easy ways to reduce their energy consumption.

EnAcT members hope that their competition sparks dialogue among not just students, but also faculty and staff.

All members of the Muhlenberg community are encouraged to think about the effects of their daily actions on the environment, not just during these two weeks, but every day!

## Some Bergtricity Events

Thurs. Mar. 19

Episode of Planet Earth  
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm in the Great Room  
Free admission  
Come watch this award-winning episode

Fri. Mar. 20

Frisbee Friday  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm on the Chapel Lawn  
Enjoy some free Frisbee fun  
"Green" Shabbat Dinner  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the Hillel House  
Enjoy a Shabbat dinner

Sat. Mar. 21

Blackout Party  
10:00 pm - Midnight at the Phi Kappa Tau (PKT) House  
Co-sponsored by EnAcT and PKT  
Enjoy some dancing in the dark

Tues. Mar. 24

Interactive Presentation with Dr. Borick on Climate Change  
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm in Trumbower 130

Wed. Mar. 25

Paper Awareness "Office" Night  
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm in the Trexler Library (A Level)  
Come and watch an episode of "The Office"  
Refreshments will be served

Thurs. Mar. 26

"Kilowatt Ours" Movie Showing  
8:00 pm - 10:00 pm in the Red Door  
Watch this award-winning documentary

Sat. Mar. 28

Earth Hour  
8:30 pm - 9:30 pm everywhere on campus  
Join millions of people in turning off your lights

# ! Attention Seniors !



## Senior Celebration & Last Lecture Information

Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>  
Under the Celebration Tent on  
Alumni Court

**\*Buffet Dinner\***

**\*Senior Slide Show\***

*Please upload infinite, tasteful photos via Facebook group*

**\*Last Lecture\***

*Please nominate faculty of your choice to deliver this memorable speech on [www.muhlenberg.edu/sue](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/sue) by March 20th*

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## This Week in History

On **Mar. 19, 1966**, Texas Western, now University of Texas at El Paso, became the first college basketball team to win the NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Final Four Championship with an all-African American starting lineup. The coach, Don Haskins, and the five African-American starters stunned and defeated the heavily favored, and all-white Wildcats of the University of Kentucky, coached by Adolph Rupp. The final score was 72-65. This huge upset became the subject of the 2006 movie "Glory Road." Mr. Haskins is credited with setting in motion the desegregation of college basketball teams in the South. The players on the 1966 team were nominated for the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and was inducted on Sept. 7, 2007, ten years after Mr. Haskins had already been enshrined.

On **Mar. 20, 2003**, the United States began military operations in Iraq in search for weapons of mass destruction and Saddam Hussein. Since the start of the war, over 4,000 United States soldiers have died along with over 31,000 soldiers wounded. Saddam Hussein was later found alive in a spider hole on Dec. 13, 2003. Hussein was hung on Dec. 30, 2006 after being sentenced to death in an Iraqi court for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. In Feb. 2009, President Obama announced an 18-month withdrawal window for combat forces. So far, the overall cost of the war is estimated to be around \$3 trillion.

On **Mar. 21, 1980**, President Jimmy Carter announced a boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In all, 62 countries boycotted the Games. This boycott led to the Olympic Boycott Games, titled the Liberty Bell Classic, held in Philadelphia, three days before the 1980 Olympics. Of the boycotting nations, 29 countries participated in the Liberty Bell Classic. In reaction, 14 countries did not participate in the Los Angeles Summer Games.

On **Mar. 22, 1941**, the Grand Coulee Dam began to generate electricity. The dam is a hydroelectric gravity dam on the Columbia River. It is the largest electric power producing facility and the largest concrete structure. It is also the fifth largest producer of hydroelectricity in the world. The reservoir is called Franklin Delano Roosevelt Lake, named after the United States President who presided over the completion of the dam under the Public Works Administration project. Excavation of the site began on July 16, 1933 and construction was complete in Jan. 1942. The dam is almost a mile long at 5223 feet and at 550 feet tall, it is taller than the Great Pyramid of Giza and in fact, all the pyramids at Giza could fit within its base. Its hydraulic height is more than twice that of Niagara Falls. In addition, there is enough concrete in the dam to build a four-foot wide, four-inch deep sidewalk twice around the equator.

On **Mar. 23, 1775**, Patrick Henry delivered his famous "Give me liberty, or give me death" speech at St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia. Along with Samuel Adams and Thomas Paine, he is remembered as one of the most influential and radical advocates of the American Revolution. He was the first governor of Virginia from 1776-1779. After the Revolution, he was an outspoken critic of the Constitution, arguing that it gave the federal government too much power. He was instrumental in forcing the adoption of the Bill of Rights and was a strong opponent of James Madison, making him a prominent Federalist in support of George Washington. When Washington became President, he offered the position of Secretary of State to Henry, but declined and the position went to Thomas Jefferson.

On **Mar. 24, 1989**, the Exxon Valdez oil spill occurred in Prince William Sound in Alaska. It is considered one of the most devastating man-made environmental disasters ever to occur at sea. Although the spill was relatively small (10.8 million gallons), it was the remote location of the spill that made government and industry response efforts difficult and severely taxed existing plans for response. The oil eventually covered over 11,000 square miles. Thousands of animals died, including up to 500,000 sea birds, 1,000 sea otters, 250 bald eagles, 22 orca whales and billions of salmon and herring eggs. Due to a thorough cleanup, little visual evidence of the event remained just one year later, although the effects of the spill continue to be felt today. In response to the spill, Congress passed the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

On **Mar. 25, 1979**, the first fully functional space shuttle orbiter, The Columbia, was delivered to the John F. Kennedy Space Center to be prepared for its first launch. Its first mission lasted from Apr. 12 - Apr. 14, 1981. The spacecraft was named after the ship captained by American Robert Gray, who explored the Pacific Northwest and became the first American vessel to circumnavigate the world. John Young, a space veteran from the Gemini and Apollo programs, commanded the first mission. On the morning of Feb. 1, 2003, the shuttle re-entered the atmosphere after a 16-day mission and broke apart into flames over Texas only minutes before the expected landing at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. All seven astronauts were killed including Commander Rick Husband, Pilot Willie McCool, and Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon.

## MAC announces spring concert

By Adam Bernstein  
WEEKLY LIFE EDITOR

Each year, the Muhlenberg Activities Council (MAC) brings a nationally known band to campus. This year, MAC is happy to announce that Plain White T's are coming to Muhlenberg for the annual spring concert on Sun., Apr. 19.

Best known for their Grammy-nominated 2006 hit "Hey There Delilah" the band has since changed course and released a new album "Big Bad World".

Rather than rely on digital recording techniques to gloss over imperfections, the band chose to simply play as they would live. "Big Bad World", a simple album exhibiting their talent for live singing, creating a classic feel that harkens back to the days before the music scene became so industrialized.

Singer/songwriter Tom Higgenson channeled his romantic hardships and also excitement over the band's success to create ten varied songs for the album.


Originally from Chicago, the

Plain White T's have been together for a decade, slowly accumulating fans and name recognition with each concert they played, until they launched into the limelight with the success of "Hey There Delilah" and the Grammy nominations that followed.


Today, they are still in it for the music rather than money and show no signs of slowing down. Clearly, the Plain White T's are not resting on the success of their 2006 album "Every Second Counts." Two bands, Danger Radio and Single File, will be opening for the Plain White T's.

The concert will be held in Memorial Hall at 7:00 p.m. On-campus tickets sales run through Fri., Mar. 20 in the Seegers Lobby. Tickets for Muhlenberg students are \$5 with Muhlenberg ID, Muhlenberg faculty and staff tickets are \$10 with Muhlenberg ID.

Tickets for the general public are \$15 After Mar. 20, tickets will be available online for \$15 at [www.muhlenberg.tickets.musictoday.com](http://www.muhlenberg.tickets.musictoday.com).




# Uncaffeinated? Get Motivated!



**Monday - Thursday**  
**8:30 am - 10:00 pm**

**Friday**  
**8:30 am - 6:00 pm**





# A conversation with Hakan Andersson

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

I recently had an opportunity to talk with Hakan Andersson, the Director of European Scouting for the Detroit Red Wings. Andersson has been credited with discovering such players as Conn Smythe winner Henrik Zetterberg, Selke Trophy winner Pavel Datsyuk, Norris Trophy winner Nicklas Lidstrom, and more.

The Red Wings are known to have the best scouting staff in the National Hockey League, and it shows as they continue to be not just competitive, but almost dominant on a yearly basis. I want to thank Hakan for taking the time out of his busy schedule to answer some questions I had for him about his life in hockey.

**Alan: How did your career in hockey start, and explain the journey you went through up to your current position with the Red Wings.**

Hakan: Me being hired by the Red Wings was a result of Neil Smith leaving Detroit to be General Manager of New York Rangers. He took with him his friend (and Detroit Swedish scout) Christer Rockstrom. Christer and I are friends through hockey in Sweden, so Christer recommended me as a replacement to Detroit. They eventually called me and hired me over the phone in October 1989 (I think). I was hired for that one season, a try-out kind of deal for both sides, and then we both apparently felt that this was a cooperation that we wanted to continue. Most of the things I know about scouting. I have learned from Kenny [Holland], who was the chief scout during my first years and then became Assistant GM. My current position as Director of European Scouting is a result of this organiza-

tion being very good at looking after its people. I was promoted to European Scout after a number of years and then at one point when we were going public with another re-signing of Scotty Bowman, our management, with Jimmie Devellano and Kenny and Jim, decided to promote me and made it public at the same time as they announced the new signing of Scotty.

**Alan: What is it like working under GM Ken Holland, whom many consider the best General Manager in hockey?**

Hakan: Working under Kenny is very good for a number of reasons. He is a former scout (probably the best one I have met, by the way), so he understands where we are coming from with regards to keeping draft picks, projecting a player's potential, etc. He also believes in his people and gives us all the tools to succeed. He is easy to talk to about anything: new ideas, different approaches to things, etc. He also seems to be the best GM in the league when it comes to running an NHL team, which makes it very nice just to be on board for this ride. These days I work a lot more with Jim Nill and Joe McDonnell, both of them are also great to work with, this also shows how this organization is built with people who think the same and are all quality people.

**Alan: What is the main difference between American and European prospects that you scout?**

Hakan: I think the biggest difference is their level of physical maturity. The North Americans are usually much more physically developed.

**Alan: What do you look for the most when you scout a player?**

Hakan: It is hard to say one thing that I look for; every player is unique, so I think one has to

look at that player and try to see if the combination of tools that he has got can take him to the NHL in the future.

**Alan: Is there any "secret" to scouting? Many know you as one of the top scouts in the NHL; how do you do it?**

Hakan: I don't think there is a secret to scouting. Some scout once said that the job rests on three legs: you have to get out and see games, you have to have an eye for players and you have to have some luck. If one of those three are missing you will have a tough time finding players.

**Alan: What do you contribute to your ability to find so many diamonds late in the draft?**

Hakan: Confidence from chief scouts over the years (Kenny, Jim Nill, Joe McDonnell), they have let me pick players in later rounds that I have had some belief in and most of all we have been very lucky with the way some of those players have developed after we drafted them.

**Alan: Is Jesper Samuelsson (final pick in 2008 NHL Entry Draft) the next diamond? What did you like about this kid that made you convince the organization to draft him?**

Hakan: I like Jesper Samuelsson because of his hockey sense; he can create offense with good passes and stick handling (he had about 100 points in 2 seasons in 3rd highest men's league in Sweden as a 18 and 19 year old). He needs to work on several other things (strength, cardio, etc.) to just be a regular in Sweden. Statistically, he will probably never make it to the NHL, I just want to see him improve year by year and then we will see how far that will take him.

SEE ANDERSSON  
PAGE 18

Alan: What

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Kamila '11, climbs rocks; Luke '10, sleeps til noon; Jessica '11, loves Disney World; Jon '10, likes sports

## Centennial Conference Championship wrap-up

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

It was all of 2 points that kept the men's team out of the Top Two standing at the Centennial Conference Championship Meet, held Feb. 28-

Mar. 1 at Ursinus College. Despite the heartbreaking loss, both the men and women's side left the track with some significant wins under their belt.

Both the men and women's team bested their Conference standing by two places. The women placed third overall with 74 points, trailing behind Johns Hopkins and winner Haverford.

The men placed fourth with 99 points – just one point behind third-place Dickinson, and two points behind second place Ursinus. Haverford claimed the meet at 150 points. The Mules tough finish was exacerbated by two questionable disqualifications, in which two top finishes for the Mules did not count.

The Mules saw performances for the record books at the two-day meet. Senior David Chorney was named Most Outstanding Performer for track events, becoming the second male Mule to ever be honored. Chorney claimed gold in the mile and distance-medley relay on Friday. On Saturday, he claimed silver in the 3,000 meters and a fourth place in the 800.

The men's 4x800 relay team claimed gold for the fourth year in a row, comprised of junior Patrick Thornton, sophomores Bobby Torphy and Chris Dolan and senior Stuart Udis. Udis and Torphy also finished second and third in the 800.

Juniors Jeremiah LaChaud and Brendan Kirk ran to top finishes as well. LaChaud was second in the 55 m (6.68) and Kirk was 8th in the 400 (52.46).

The women's team saw records fall. Junior Alex Faust won third in the 400, establishing a new school record of 59.29. She saw top finishes in the 200 (5th, 26.88), the 4x200 m relay (4th) and the 4x400 m relay (2nd). Alex Faust also broke her own meet record in the pole vault, at 11.25.

Fellow junior Jennifer Lynch shattered the 3,000 meter record by 10 seconds with a time of 10:13.99. She was also a member of the 4x800 that claimed a silver medal.

Freshman Kimberlee Yalango earned two silver medals on relay teams, and freshman Jenna Schaffer won bronze in the 55 m. (7.62), nearly topping the school record of 7.57.

Both the men and women's teams also saw top performances from the field. Junior Debra Crockett placed fifth in shot (37'9.5") and senior Amanda Martini leapt to a seventh place finish in triple jump (37'9.5"). Jumper March Brookland saw success in both the long jump (7th, 20'7.25") and triple jump (3rd, 43'7.75"). Joseph Dyer claimed a tie for bronze in high jump (5'10.75") and finished sixth in triple (41'11.5"). Senior shot-put thrower Evan Sheppard claimed 4th place in the event with a throw of 46'5.5".

## Mules make a mark at NCAA & ECAC Track and Field Championship

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

A squad of distance runners made 'Berg athletic history at last weekend's NCAA Track and Field Championships at Rose-Hulman (Indiana).

Muhlenberg's distance medley relay of David Chorney, '09, Stuart Udis, '09, Bobby Torphy, '11, and Peter Rice, '12, earned All-American honors by finishing fourth at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track Championships. The relay squad's finish is the best ever for a Muhlenberg relay at the national meet, besting a 2003 DMR fifth place finish.

Chorney finished the last leg of the race with a 4:11 split. The team crossed the finish line in 10:04.78. It was a fight to the finish – the Mules beat out 5th place Trinity by just hundredths of a second, and missed out on 3rd place by less than half of a second.

Two members of the women's team made their first-ever NCAA Indoor debut. Juniors Alex Faust and Jessica Lynch became the first women in school history to compete in the NCAA Indoor Championships. Faust narrowly missed 12 feet in pole vault. Lynch posted her second-fastest mile time of the season.

The National Championships feature the best DIII athletes in the nation, with qualifying athletes from over 65 teams.

In other news, the track team saw a handful of standout performances at the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) championship, held March 6-7 at Tufts University (Massachusetts).

The DMR made their mark on the track, placing second at the championship in a time of 10:00.70. Three members of the team placed individually. Chorney placed fourth in the mile (4:18.02). Torphy was seventh in the 800 (1:56.32) and senior Udis was eighth (1:56.68).

On the women's side, Lynch broke her third school record at the meet with a third place finish in the mile (5:02.89). Faust finished seventh in the pole vault (11-01.75).

### Sports Schedule

#### Softball

Fri., Mar. 20 vs. Cortland State, 3:30

#### Baseball

Fri., Mar. 20 vs. St. John Fisher, 4:00

Sat., Mar. 21 vs. St. John Fisher, 12:30 (Double Header)

#### Men's Lacrosse

Sat., Mar. 21 vs. Gettysburg, 7:00

Wed., Mar. 25 vs. Haverford, 7:00

Does our writing style  
intimidate you?

Does Katz' Korner cause  
you to kower in fear?

Show your own strength  
and write for Sports.

#### END OF AN ERA FROM PAGE 19

Madeira leaves the Muhlenberg program in great shape. The Mules will return 3 All-Conference play-

ers and enter next season as one of the Centennial's top teams. But next season has nothing to do with why Madeira decided to retire now. "God had a hand in me getting the job here and now He is telling me it's time to go, time to step back," he said. Madeira leaves the sidelines of coaching to enter the bleachers as a fan, where he hopes to watch his 5 grandchildren play sports and grow up. "I feel blessed to have spent

so much time here. We had good student athletes. The people I worked with were professional and supportive. God has blessed me with time here."

Whether or not we always agreed with his X's and O's, with his subbing pattern or his game plan, no one cared more or put more time into Muhlenberg basketball than Madeira did. His blazers may have been untraditional colors and his coaching stances were often unorthodox, but there is no doubt Coach Dave Madeira will be greatly missed as Muhlenberg basketball enters its next era.



**BE PROUD**  
FROM BACK PAGE

ued to press and trap and foul until the absolute end. When the final buzzer sounded, the Mules had lost in the Sweet Sixteen by 12 points, but had left everything on the court. It wasn't the best performance by the Mules, but it may have been the grittiest. An average team can compete when their shots are falling, when they are their best. But it takes a special team, a championship team, the best team in school history, to compete with the best teams in the nation even when things aren't going their way.

Asked about her emotions after the game, Boyle described them as, "a mix, bittersweet." In her last game as a Mule, Boyle ended her storied career scoring 11 points and passing the 1,500 point mark, becoming only the second Muhlenberg woman to do so. Freshman Alexandra Chili netted 15 points in the loss, which gave her a season total of 480 points, making her freshman campaign the highest scoring single season in school history- not bad for a freshman. McSherry added another block to her school record, which is finalized at 164 blocks. The class of 2009, the four seniors Coach Rohn was so proud of, finished their careers the winningest class ever.

The 2008-2009 was a season to remember for all.

"It was very special," said Coach Rohn. "When it ends, it's painful." With time, hopefully Coach Rohn and his players can replace that pain with an emotion that they deserve: pride. The best season in school history was a pleasure for this school to watch and to follow. It was the definition of a season to be proud of.



Senior Erin McSherry goes up for a shot as she helps the Mules make it to the Sweet Sixteen.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

**IM CHAMPS**  
FROM BACK PAGE

was the Sig Ep team, who upset the undefeated Sea Turtles in an epic semi-final battle. The Sea Turtles had defeated Sig Ep earlier in the season, but in round 2 Sig Ep simply would not be defeated. The loss was the Sea Turtles first of the season. The Blazers-Sig Ep championship was a nail biter down to the buzzer. Senior Billy Dalton, one of the many fans in attendance, said of the Blazers, "I think they have a bright future ahead of them." Freshman Mark "Coatesville" Mounayar may have said it best, stating "Most of the B league will be happy to see them in the A league next year." The first Cinderella slipper of 2009 clearly belongs to the Blazers.

Support Your



Mules Sports Teams

**ANDERSSON**  
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advice do you have for kids

who want to be an NHL scout?

Hakan: I guess my advice would be to try and learn the scouting side of watching the game; it varies some from the normal way of watching a game and then try any way you can to get a foot in the door with an NHL team.

Alan: As a scout, whom would you build a team around: Sydney Crosby or Alexander Ovechkin, or other?

Hakan: (Laughs) They are both

great players, so that would be a treat to be able to build a team around any of those, the top scorer in the league or possibly the top playmaking center in the league.

*Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report and the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers section; a writer for Prohockeynews.com and Insidehockey.com, he is also the co-host of NHL 2Day, a weekly radio show on Youcastr.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com.*

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# The end of an era



## Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

Like every college basketball program, Muhlenberg has seen its players enter and graduate, its assistant coaches come and go, and even its conference affiliation change. But unlike most college basketball programs, for the past 22 years,

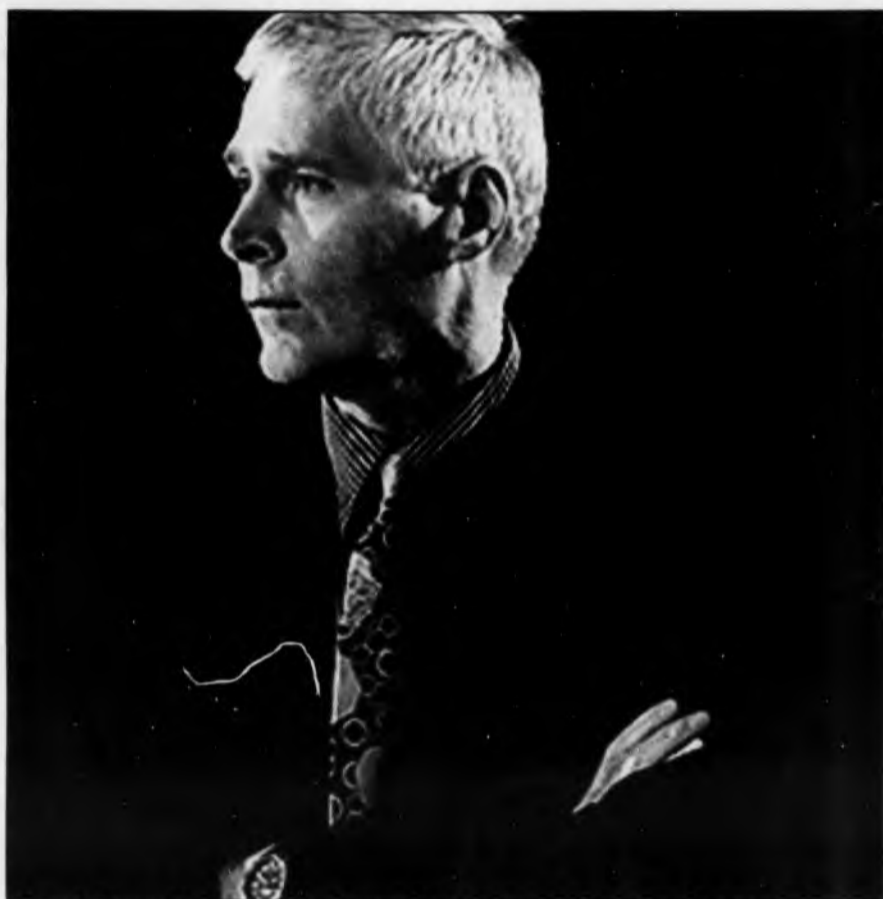


Coach Madeira during one of his 402 Muhlenberg victories.

Muhlenberg basketball has seen only one head coach: Dave Madeira. Considering the current trend in high-level athletics, where every wrongdoing is blamed on the coach, where coaches rarely finish their contracts, and where the coaching carousel spins faster than Bob Knight loses his temper, Madeira's 22 years as head coach are almost hard to grasp.

A starting letterman in two sports at Concord College in West Virginia, Madeira entered the work force looking for any opportunities to coach. Beginning in junior high and high school, Madeira began coaching football, basketball, and baseball, but knew early on basketball was his true coaching passion. After moving with his wife to Florida in the early 80's, Madeira moved back to the Pennsylvania area and was hired as a part-time assistant coach at Muhlenberg in 1982. While still teaching elementary physical education in the Emmaus school district, Madeira was named interim head coach in the 1987-1988 season. The head coach had left the team shortly before the season, and Madeira still remembers the athletic director telling him that he was named interim coach only for one season, as he warned Madeira, "Don't quit your day job." But after a successful first year, Madeira was given the permanent position of head basketball coach. Little did he know it was a position he would hold for the next 22 seasons.

In his first game as head coach, Madeira and the Mules defeated Johns Hopkins in a thrilling game as part of the Scotty Wood tournament that year. Twenty years later, the happiness was still apparent on Madeira's face when he described the excitement and atmosphere of that game, especially the excitement his players felt after the win. Madeira's career continued successfully after that first win, as he went on to win a school record 311 wins. His two best



Coach Dave Madeira has thoroughly enjoyed his past 22 years as Muhlenberg's head basketball coach.

seasons were in 1995 and 1998, when his teams won the Centennial Conference tournament and were invited to the NCAA Division III tournament in both years. That 1995 team defeated an undefeated Franklin & Marshall, ranked #1 in the country, in front of a packed Memorial Hall to win their Conference championship.

But don't try asking Madeira which team was more successful between 1995 and 1998. In fact, don't try asking him to choose between any of his seasons at Muhlenberg. "When you look back, you can't make one team more special than any other. Every team was special for me, regardless of their outcome." Madeira was also quick to point out that he measures success differently than most. "At Division III, success equals teaching values and having your players reflect those values," Madeira remarked. A deeply religious man, Madeira's most lasting legacy isn't the games he won or the championships he brought to Muhlenberg; rather it is the type of men he produced.

Always proud of his players, always quick to give his players the credit and himself the blame, Madeira demonstrates the type of selfless attitude he always tried to instill in his players. "Your players win games," Madeira said, "Some

years we had better players. But I have respect for all my players, they all gave great effort and became good young men." In the years his teams won, Madeira said, "I didn't coach any smarter or harder...ultimately, the players have the outcome." The next time you run into the winningest coach in a storied program's history, see if they give as much credit to their players as Madeira does; they probably won't.

On his departure from the Muhlenberg sidelines, Madeira had an interesting response to what he will miss most. It won't be the close victories and the hard-fought wins. Rather, what Madeira will miss most is watching his teams improve and grow everyday in practice. What he will miss the most, Madeira said, "Is the practices. Watching the team, including the assistant coaches, managers, and players, working together and the emergence of a team over the course of a season. Seeing a group of individuals early on, then starting to put their teammates over themselves...rooting for one another and developing chemistry." Again, probably not the response you would get from most tenured coaches around the country.

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## S P O R T S

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## Women's Basketball: A season to be proud of

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

Women's Coach Ron Rohn could hardly keep his emotions at bay. He was not upset with how his team performed, he was not upset that his team had lost. He was upset because their season was over; he was upset because his magical team had played their last day together. "I will miss (seniors) Lauren Boyle, Erin McSherry, Kaitlyn Strumph, and Bethany Enterline more than I could ever say." He went on to add, "It was one of the highlights of my life seeing them every single day." Coach Rohn's attitude after the loss epitomizes how the rest of the team felt as well. Clearly the team was upset; the team thought they could have won and moved on to the next round. But the tears and the emotions weren't necessarily of disappointment, because no member of that team could have been dissatisfied by their season.

The Mules lost last weekend against a big and tough team from Brandeis University in Waltham, MA. The game was part of the DIII Sweet Sixteen and was held at Amherst College in Amherst, MA. After an emotional victory the previous weekend over host Bowdoin, the Mules just could not find their groove against an impressive Judges squad. The Mules shot 28% from the field in the first half, and did not make a 3-pointer, going 0-5 in the first session. But they played hard and they played inspired, trying to keep the game from getting out

Following their loss in the Sweet Sixteen, Muhlenberg

of hand. Even when Brandeis erupted for a 20-0 run in the first half, the Mules would never give up, never give in. A quick run by the Mules before halftime closed the gap to 12 as the teams headed to the locker rooms.

Throughout the second half, the Mules continued to fight, continued to claw away at the deficit. Leading the way was sophomore Kelly McKeon, who finished the game with an impressive 25 points, 11 rebounds, 5 assists, and 0 turnovers, while playing head-to-head with one of the nation's premier point guards. But not even McKeon's special night could erase the Brandeis lead, for whenever the Mules would start to climb back, and they tried many times, the Judges would make a big play or bury a big shot. "We have always risen to whatever challenge was in front of us," said Coach Rohn. "We did as well today [against Brandeis], we just couldn't get over the hump." But the Mules never gave up. Even when Brandeis made 12 of 13 free throws at the end, Coach Rohn was still subbing in his defense players,

and the  
M u l e s  
c o n t i n -

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Sophomore Kelly McKeon put on a great performance in the Mules' Sweet Sixteen loss to Brandeis.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

## Champions determined: Wish and Blazers stand alone

By Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

**A League:** Well it took two years, but Team Wish was finally able to win their second Intramural basketball championship. After a disappointing second place finish last season, Team Wish vowed they would never again let the Kup slip from their grasp. Entering the season as the clear-cut favorites, several midseason injuries put their shot at the title in jeopardy. Without senior Ryan Paskin, and with senior Billy Wishart hobbling on one ankle, it was up to the other players to take over in the playoffs. Leading the playoff push was junior Brian Ward, who was named Most Outstanding Player of the playoffs. Ward led Team Wish to an easy victory in round 1, which set up a highly anticipated semi-final between Team Wish and the FootBallers. In what turned out to be the most physical game of the season, perhaps too physical, Ward led Team Wish to a hard-fought victory over the #3 seeded FootBallers. On the other side of the bracket, Team Work allowed the Kon Tiki squad a sweat-free path towards the title game.

The championship game provided an electric atmosphere, taking place in Memorial Hall following the Varsity team's playoff win over Haverford. With a wonderful national anthem, the scoreboard, a top-notch announcer, halftime entertainment, and even a section of rowdy fans, the championship game was, in the words of senior Rocco Deluca, "an electrifying display of basketball prowess." Both teams came out cold, as the large court made clear why Intramurals belong on the short courts of the Field House. Tied for most of the first half, Team Wish ended the half on a serious run, led by the tremendous shooting of senior James Jeffers, and took

a double-digit lead into halftime.

The second-half was relatively even, but Kon Tiki was never able to overcome their cold shooting and retake the lead. Team Wish remained in control of the game, as their lead stayed around a consistent 8-10 point margin. When the finally buzzer sounded, Team Wish had achieved their 2 year dream, they had won their second championship. "We worked so hard for this," said Ward. "I couldn't be happier." Most of Team Wish shared similar emotions with Ward. Even senior Joe Gogel of Kon Tiki was proud of his team's effort as well: "Everyone left it all out there on the court. Shots just weren't going in for us. We came a long way from where we started." It was a fantastic ending to a miraculous and memorable season.

**B League:** For most around college basketball, Cinderella is expected to show up in March. At Muhlenberg, she was in full force by the end of February. The #8 seed entering the tournament, the Blazers defeated the #2, #3, and #4 seeds en route to their historic championship. Comprised of underclassmen soccer players, the speed and athleticism of the Blazers proved to be the difference between them and the rest of the teams chasing after the coveted Lord Wishart Trophy. Leading the Blazers was sophomore Tommy Reilly, who was named MVP of the playoff tournament. Reilly's deep shooting provided the bulk of the Blazers offense throughout the tournament and especially in the playoffs. His championship performance was so impressive, it led many to question Gogel, coach of the A-league Kon Tiki squad, why Reilly was never offered an A-league contract.

Squaring off with the Blazers in the final

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 19

Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2009

# Final Student Government meeting recaps past term

By D. E. Wayne  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Last Mon., Mar. 16 was the final Student Body Association meeting for this term. Sara Keller '10 addressed the Student Government members and the handful of non-members at 7:30 p.m. at the Seegers couches and announced that this would be her last SBA meeting of her presidency. She proceeded to introduce some of her committee heads, who briefly explained their accomplishments throughout the past year in office.

Junior Matt Pearson, Executive Secretary for the past term as well as Communications and Programming Committee head, introduced junior Catherine Souza to explain their contributions. Together, they have made a Facebook page for Student Government. This page contains all of Student Government's documents, and for those who decide to become "fans" of Student Government, they can receive updates and invitations to all Student Government Sponsored events, such as future SBA meetings.

Junior Barrie Schessler, Executive Treasurer and head of Finance Committee, announced her committee's big plan for the term: all treasurers and presidents of all clubs are invited to an informational seminar to teach them how to properly finance their events and manage their expenditures.

Other Student Government committees announced their goings-on, too. Junior Angela Lucci's Academics Committee put together a very successful Academics Fair this past month. Over 90 students attended, in addition to the representative faculty from every department. Many students decided to declare majors or minors after investigating the academic departments, as well as expressed interest in the events that these departments are hold-

ing in the future.

Although senior Sara Mazes could not attend the meeting, Student Government still heard all about the new and exciting accomplishments from the Campus Safety and Housing Committee. Recently, barbecue grills have been installed into some major areas of the campus, such as the freshman quad and Martin Luther quad, a great accessory for upcoming spring weather. Antibacterial hand sanitizers have been installed in Seegers Union, Trexler Library, Life Sports Center and New Science Building, which was a helpful addition for this year's flu season. To beautify the campus, the committee has installed benches on the terraces of the west side of the library, and is in the process of cultivating gardens on the east side of the library. To finish up the term, the Campus Safety and Housing Committee is working to initiate the Bike Lending Program at Muhlenberg, which will hopefully be in place by the end of this year.

Junior Jon Falk's Seegers Union and Dining Committee has been making many small, but important changes. Some of the new changes include increased hot breakfast time in General's Quarters, and some new theme nights for Garden Room dinners. Soon, we will be seeing iced coffee in GQ, too, which has given high hopes to caffeine addicts everywhere.

Overall, the meeting went quickly, but gave attendants a clear and concise overview of what Muhlenberg's Student Government has actually done for them this past term. We can expect to see many more exciting events and accomplishments next year, considering that this year's Student Government elections are coming within the week.

*"We expect to see many more exciting events and accomplishments next year."*

## Local high school students utilize new Trexler Library resources

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

This past Fall on Fri., Oct. 24, during the 20th anniversary celebration of Trexler Library, the College introduced the new Information Commons on Level A. This event was exciting for students not only because of added research capabilities, but also because it introduced the highly anticipated YouTube contest video winners. The Information Commons is made possible through the support of AT&T and is utilized on campus as an interdisciplinary space that is comprised of a new, innovative technological and scholarly resources in a effort to promote collaboration among students, faculty and staff of the College. President of AT&T Pennsylvania explained, "We support projects that create opportunities, make connections and address community needs where we - and our customers - live and work."

The larger community is also permitted to make use of the new resources. On Feb. 19 and 20 the library was host to 55 honors English student from Parkland High School for a two-day research program held in the Information Commons. The program helped the students to prepare for a persuasive paper they were writing on a topic of their choice. Similarly, honors students from Allen High School will participate in the same type of program.

A variety of other community groups, such as the Hispanic American

Organization with whom the College maintains an ongoing and growing service learning program, can also benefit from the new Commons. Additionally, local students and K-12 teachers across the state will have access to the Commons if they attend the library's Urban Academy curriculum lab that is held each summer.

The room was also host to the Dick Begbie photo exhibit in which 11 of his 16 photos from his "Watkins Glen" series were displayed. The photos were taken during the summer of 2008 in Watkins Glen, NY. According to the Library's Xanga blog, during Begbie's visit he was "struck with the juxtaposition of the natural and the man-made features of the steep trail that winds through the park's canyon."

Clearly, this new space can be utilized for many different educational purposes, and since the initial opening of the Information Commons, students have found many ways to effectively use the space. From listening to CDs and watching DVDs to spending quality research time for classes, the new Commons is often crowded with students. The Commons also serves as a great resource for student teachers, who use the innovative facilities to aid them in creating lesson plans.

The many resources and new technologies available in the Information Commons include all Microsoft Office Programs, the Dreamweaver program for website creation, and a Smartboard.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## Not to burst your bubble

Just because we live in a bubble doesn't mean we aren't vulnerable. Recently, the Allentown Police Department received reports of burglaries in the surrounding residential area, and all MILE residents were alerted. We all know not to talk to strangers, but that seems to have been thrown out the window on move-in day.

To be fair, MILE house residents are rarely notified when college employees are stopping by. Whether they are installing new carbon monoxide detectors or doing a routine check, not all residents are told. The first time it happens, we are nervous, but let them in. By the tenth time, we don't even question it.

We do not stop to check employee IDs or even notice if the word Muhlenberg appears anywhere. We would never dream that anyone would want to rob us, so we become quite lax with our awareness, leaving doors unlocked, windows open and valuables in plain sight. Not a smart decision in general, and even worse when everything is in one condensed area.

We all know better, but perhaps after four years in a college environment, we feel a little too secure in our surroundings. Little blue lights and swipe-only entry seem enough. The fact is, though, that we can't disregard common sense. Lock your doors and windows when you aren't at home (and even sometimes when you are). Also, if you are lucky and have peep holes, start using them.

Other than that, our best advice is to check identification of anyone entering your house. They might be annoyed, but they'll live. It only takes a second and it can be so beneficial. Besides, any true employee wouldn't think twice about your questions. Never be afraid to be rude or nosy when your personal safety is at hand.

Finally, campus safety is a wonderful resource and works very hard to keep us safe. By becoming more invested in our own safety though, we can make the campus bubble more secure, and in this instance that sounds like a great idea.

## Letter to the Editor

Making conscious choices to preserve the sustainability of our communities is part of being a good citizen. We are inundated today with messages targeting us as consumers, but very few messages that call on us to reflect on our role as citizens of our college community, citizens of our country, and citizens of the global community. For better or worse, the choices we make as consumers do have an impact on all those communities, and we all have a responsibility to be informed and to make conscious decisions based on the values most important to us. Hopefully, we will consider the good of our communities when we question whether our personal, societal, and corporate practices are sustainable. What is sustainability? The United Nations Brundtland report defined sustainable development as: "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Sustainability requires the balancing of social, economic, and environmental needs. In 2003, President Helm formed the Campus Greening Committee to examine, propose, and monitor recycling efforts, reductions in the campus waste stream, and other sustainable practices on-campus. Since that time, the Greening Committee has worked with students, staff, and faculty to fulfill that mission. In response to the needs of the campus and growing concern with related issues, including electricity deregulation, growing awareness of the magnitude of climate change issues, and the likelihood of increasing regulation of greenhouse gas emissions, a part-time sustainability coordinator was hired in 2007. Muhlenberg College as an institution is striving to be sustainable and, we assure you, our administration would far rather spend its economic resources on furthering students' education than on purchasing unnecessary electricity.

EnAcT is a student group whose stated mission is to spread environmental awareness and cultivate ecological literacy while actively taking part in the ecological betterment of the campus, local, and global communities. EnAcT's recent initiatives, including Trayless Tuesdays, Just Tap It, and the dorm competition all further that mission and call on members of the Muhlenberg community to consider their role as citizens of a com-

## Campus Sustainability

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PAGE 3

## How to stop the drug wars

By T.E. Lawrence  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Juarez, Mexico  
used to be known as  
a frequent weekend

party-town for college students. Unfortunately, today Juarez is gaining notoriety for being a war zone. Since December 2006, 10,000 people have been killed and countless more have been attacked and terrorized as a result of the war. What war is this? No it's not the "War on Terror," but rather the "War on Drugs."

Violence between drug cartels for control of the highly profitable drug trade has spilled into the streets of Mexico, accounting for over 6,000 deaths last year. Just before Christmas, the severed heads of eight soldiers were found in the Mexican city of Guerrero. Just last month, three more were found in Ciudad Juarez. But perhaps the most heinous of all recent crimes was perpetrated by Santiago Meza; nicknamed "El Pozolero," ("The Soupmaker"). Mr. Meza confessed to having dissolved the bodies of more than 300 people in acid on the orders of a local drug baron. Recently, the Chief of Police in Juarez resigned his position after a local cartel threatened to kill an officer every 48 hours until he did so. Two dead policemen later, the Police Chief stepped down and the Mayor of Juarez moved his family to El Paso, Texas for fear of

their lives. Mexican president, Felipe Calderon has frequently said, "organized crime is out of control."

It has become painfully evident that international efforts to undermine the production and distribution of illegal drugs have failed. Each year, the United States spends upwards of \$40 billion in an attempt to eliminate the supply of drugs, 1.5 million arrests are made in the U.S. each year for drug offences, corruption is rampant in Mexico, and just a few weeks ago, the president of Guinea-Bissau, a country ravaged by drug related violence, was assassinated. The question of "What's the best way to solve the drug issue?" has now shifted to "What's the least-bad way to deal with the drug issue?"

Since 1909, when the International Opium Commission was founded, mind-altering substances (other than alcohol) have been made illegal. The debate of whether or not to legalize drugs has always been around, but never has it seemed so close to becoming a reality—at least in my lifetime. As the dollars and bodies continue to accumulate, it seems as if legalizing drugs may be the "least-bad" option.

Currently the United States, and the world for that matter, is experiencing an unparalleled recession that has seen the economy rapidly

shrink. President Obama has requested hundreds of billions of dollars to bailout Citigroup and Bank of America and, in addition, has recently called for a budget exceeding a trillion dollars. Confidently, I can make the argument that the most opportune time to legalize drugs is now. Aside from the fact that legalization would put most of the drug cartels out of business, the economic climate may warrant legalization.

The United Nations conservatively estimates that the illegal drug industry is worth around \$320 billion a year. As mentioned before, the United States alone spends upwards of \$40 billion per year in, mostly unsuccessful, efforts to stop the trade. If drugs are legalized, the government can tax the sale of them which would help finance Obama's economic plan. Also, since the sale of drugs would be recorded, the monetary transactions would provide a boost to the economy; how much of a boost is debatable. Most importantly, the \$40 billion that the U.S. spends each year could be diverted to both education and rehabilitation.

Due to the illegality of drugs, addiction today is seen as a "law and order" issue rather than a medical issue, which is the way it should be treated. Drug

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# Why we Relay

By Kelly Frazee & Melissa Pieller  
NEWS EDITOR & WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

I (Kelly) relay because my Nana lost her battle with cancer and there are more people out there battling cancer everyday.

No one should have to go through the pain that my Nana had to endure which is why it is so important to continue to fight back against the disease. Cancer can affect anyone and at anytime. I also choose to fight back because one day cancer may affect more of my loved ones or even myself and I hope everyday that if that does happen, we will have a cure.

I (Melissa) relay because this summer I got to experience first hand how cancer affects not only the victim, but everyone around them. My best friend's mother, Gretch, lost her year and a half battle with cancer last winter. Going through that loss with my best friend was the hardest thing I've ever had to do. I relay because no one should ever have to deal with losing someone they love to cancer. Relay allows me to be active in fighting cancer by raising money for research. It's my hope that in the near future there will be a cure for cancer, and I will have been a small part in making that possible.

Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's most acclaimed fundraiser. It offers everyone from children to college students to the general community the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. No matter who you are, there's a place for you at Relay. Relay For Life is a life-changing event that brings together more than 3.5 million people in an effort to celebrate, remember and fight back. We celebrate those who have survived their battle with cancer. We remember loved ones lost to the disease. We fight back because we have been touched by cancer and are dedicated to putting an end to the disease.

Last year our Relay was the number one fundraising Relay in the Lehigh Valley with over \$46,000. This year our Relay is taking place on April 26, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in Scotty Wood Stadium. Visit [www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege](http://www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege) to register your team of eight to fifteen people.

Did you know that this year more than 1,500 people a day are expected to die of cancer? Did you know that there are more than 100 cancers and any part of the body can be affected? Did you know that deaths from cancer worldwide are projected to continue rising, with an estimated 12 million deaths in 2030?

Now you know, and you have three more reasons to relay. We hope that you will join on us on April 26, to help us put an end to cancer. See you there!

## Social responsibility is an obligation

By Sarah Illing  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

As a non-EnAct member, I'm writing on behalf of those who are incredibly appalled by recent articles criticizing EnAct's Trayless

Tuesday and Just Tap It campaigns. In the last issue, Matthew Cobaugh requested that EnAct "give us the option of being green" and repeatedly referred to environmentalism as their "agenda." Conveniently, their "agenda" coincides with the college's commitment to the advancement of global environmental literacy as a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability of Higher Education (AASHE).

While I agree that social responsibility is an individual choice, it is Muhlenberg College's institutional obligation. According to the Mission Statement, the college aims to "develop independent critical thinkers who are...equipped with ethical and civic values." Ethic and civic values are not only taught in academic settings, but through the modeling of responsible choices. Within Muhlenberg's dining halls, students are presented with a variety of options, and I believe that these options must fall within environmentally sustainable boundaries. Bottled water and cafeteria trays should be institutionally eliminated because they place unnecessary strain on the environment and contribute to global climate change; however, the individual's right to purchase unsustainable items at independent stores is upheld.

In Santiago del Estero, Argentina, I visited a village in which people have to walk a kilometer to reach a single pipe that provides arsenic-contaminated water for over seventy people. The outside temperature can reach over 120 degrees, and there are thousands of communities in which people do not have electricity, radio or running water. We are fortunate to have the privilege of clean, running water, and I find it incredible that people choose to construe drinking tap water as a form of suffering. While there are many things that we cannot do to combat social injustice, we can at least evaluate our own practices and eliminate those that are wasteful and unnecessary.

I have overheard some students say, "I should be able to have bottled water and trays because I pay \$40,000 a year to go here." To these people, I would like to say: your socioeconomic status does not exempt you from social responsibility, just as it will not protect you from the consequences of global climate change. You may ignorantly tout your undisputed individual rights by protesting or selling bottled water door-to-door, but doing so would show that you have deprived yourself of the education you are paying so much to obtain.

## DRUGS

FROM PAGE 2

addiction is no different than an addiction to alcohol or gambling. The difference is that alcoholics can seek help in rehab cen-

ters while drug addicts are sent to jail, a place where drugs and violence are painfully present. If drugs are legalized, addicts could seek help in rehabilitation centers, no different than the ones gambling addicts and alcoholics go to.

I would like to conclude this article by saying that, while I am pro-legalization, I am not a proponent of their use, nor do I use them. It is only in my humble opinion that the legalization of drugs is the "least-bad" way to deal with them and that its benefits far outweigh its disadvantages, especially in today's political and economic climate.

## SUSTAINABILITY

FROM PAGE 2

munity and inhabitants of the earth and to consider the environmental impact of their

behavior and choices. We want to assure the Muhlenberg community that the work of EnAct is well informed, is motivated by only the best intentions, and is done in conjunction with the support of the Greening Committee and faculty in Sustainability Studies and other disciplines. Given the dialogue beginning in the Weekly, we venture to say that EnAct has been successful in encouraging people to consider environmental issues and to explore the balance between personal convenience and responsibility.

In response to a recent opinion piece written by Matthew Colbaugh, we want to clarify some information. In fact, bottled and tap water are regulated quite differently. The EPA regulates tap water and requires frequent testing (more than one hundred samples from each supply per month) of its safety and requires that consumers be informed of any violations. Bottled water is regulated by the FDA under the rules for interstate commerce, so the regulations apply only when water is shipped between states, not when it is packaged and sold within the same state. Additionally, the FDA does not require agency or consumer notification of violations. In fact, between 1990 and 2007, bottlers pulled products from stores 100 times due to contamination with mold, benzene, coliform, microbes, or other contaminants, but did not make the recall public or attempt to recover contaminated packages already sold. These distinctions of regulation aside, both bottled and tap water in the United States are generally safe. The

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# Nepotism: the oldest family tradition

By Adam Bernstein  
LIFE! EDITOR

As I was waiting for the "biggest snowfall on record" over break (which, by the way, it feels like the weathermen say that every storm is the "biggest" or "worst"), I sat down to watch the premiere episode of *Celebrity Apprentice*. Oh yes, Donald Trump (aka "the Donald") is back with yet another season of his reality show where the contestants seem to be pawns for spreading his already well-known name. But what caught my eye was not trying to count how many piercings and tattoos Dennis Rodman has, or laughing at the fact that Joan Rivers cannot even express herself from all of her Botox, or even cringing at the sight of Andrew Dice Clay. It was Trump's kids, Donald Jr. and Ivanka and the pure nepotism that Donald has towards them. I just wonder where they would be if Donald did not have them glued to his side at all times, growing his empire both genetically and financially. I know that they are supposedly smart people who went to top business schools, but in an economy like the one the country is in now, the question of connections comes more into view. Do Donald Jr. and Ivanka have the top job that they have because they are genuinely intelligent, or because Big D just handed it to them?

Nepotism has been alive since the beginning of time. Any family member wants to help out their progeny, but to what extent is it acceptable? Should a family member get a top job because they are related to the boss, or should someone else get it because they worked for it? Let's take an example from the lovely state of Alaska, home

to the inexperienced vice-presidential candidate, Sarah Palin. Well, before Palin took the seat of Governor of Alaska, Frank Murkowski was the big moose. When Murkowski was elected, he already held a seat in the U.S. Senate. After he left the Senate for the Governor's mansion, or igloo in Alaska, I'm not sure, he needed to appoint someone to fill his Senate seat for the remaining two years. He chose none other than his daughter, then-Alaska State Representative, Lisa Murkowski, to fill the seat. Was she really the most qualified for the job, or was Frank just trying to keep the seat in the family for as long as he could? Okay, Murkowski is not the only one accountable for political nepotism. According to the Los Angeles Times in an article published in 2005, at least 17 Senators and 11 House Representatives from both sides of the aisle have children, spouses, or other close relatives who hold office, lobby, or work as consultants, most in Washington D.C. Just a few of these families include the iconic Kennedys and the Bushe, and the not-so-well-known Levins of Michigan (Carl Levin is a Senator and Sander Levin is a Representative) and the Udalls (Mark Udall is a Representative from Colorado who is the son of former congressman and presidential candidate, Morris Udall, who is the cousin of Representative Tom Udall from New Mexico, whose father was a Cabinet secretary and a cousin of Senator Gordon Smith of Oregon...is your head spinning yet?).

I think that it is great if your family wants to help you out and succeed in the world. I know that my family would do anything to help me, but

I am not being appointed to a Senate seat, nor am I being given millions to sit next to them and agree with them on everything and help build a family empire. The U.S. is in its worst economic situation since the Great Depression and people are scrambling for jobs. Millions have been laid off, and millions more are just entering the economy as they begin to graduate college. Muhlenberg is a fantastic college, but even if you made it into Phi Beta Kappa, I doubt that Trump would hire you over a family member of his that barely eked out of college.

Now, I know that we, as Americans, are xenophobic and think that America is the greatest country in the world, but some countries do have better ideas than we do. Did you know that in 2008, Italy's Supreme Court actually made nepotism illegal? Not only did they make it illegal, but punishable as well; offenders can be sentenced to 14-21 months in prison. However, there is some fine print that an offender can get their sentence cleared or cut short if the offender is a relative of the judge...just kidding. This is now slowing the Italian universal belief that it was impossible to get a job in the country without a "raccomandazione," or friendly word from a relative.

Conventional wisdom says that college is the time for networking; even Facebook and Myspace are into it. As a kid you might have thought about why networking is so important. Well, we have grown to understand that it is who you know, and not always what you know, that really makes a difference, especially in economic times like these.

## Now is not the time

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

As average human beings we have all had some sort of uncontrollable spending urge. Whether your kids wanted to buy the most outrageously expensive toy or game system, your girlfriend just had to have that special pair of shoes, or your dad begged for a new flat screen television, we have all been there. After treating themselves, most people agree that the time has come to hold off any more spending, but that urge to buy more is ever so tempting. It seems as though our President and Congress are going through this very dilemma. They have this desire, this compulsion, to spend until we have to break the piggy bank to scrape up the last little bit of savings.

The notion that America even has a backup piggy bank that holds its emergency money is nothing more than an illusion. Just a few weeks ago, Congress passed a stimulus bill totaling \$787 billion. This hefty stimulus package plans to inject nothing more than monopoly money into the American economy. The billions of dollars the Democrats plan to use will be raised by tax hikes (as the White House's budget clearly shows) and increased foreign lending and borrowing. Instead of creating new spending money and domestic jobs, the 2009 stimulus package will leave a gargantuan tab for future citizens to pay.

It's okay if the Democrats pass their idea of a solution, because they have the majorities. Let's wait and see what their approach stimulates. But wait, the money flow does not end there. On March 3, 2009, the Senate began debate on an omnibus appropriations bill. This type of legisla-

tion is made up of multiple spending bills crammed into one, massive bill. The omnibus bill appropriates \$410 billion for federal spending, which is an 8% increase from last year's spending, excluding the already allocated stimulus funds. This is quite a large chunk of tax payer money. As the debate ensued, Republicans expressed staunch opposition to the omnibus legislation in its current form.

First of all, the bill is overwhelming. Nine appropriations bills squished into one package have been dumped in the laps of our Senators. How can they honestly analyze and improve such a large bill? Secondly, the omnibus legislation is stuffed with earmarks and pork. The last count left off at 8,570 earmarks for local pet projects totaling \$7.7 billion. Yes, it is small compared to the size of the whole bill, but billions down the drain is still not acceptable. When did billions of dollars become chump change? Last time I checked, our country is in the midst of a recession. In tough economic times, money is precious and can not be diverted from economic solutions for the American people. Instead of district projects, the \$7.7 billion could be used to help college students as additional funding to the federal student loan program or to fund further reconstruction in New Orleans.

Lastly, the omnibus bill provides funding for programs created by the stimulus package. Why is Congress pouring more money into stimulus plans that have already received millions of dollars? Most of these programs have not even began, because the stimulus package was passed only weeks ago. A waiting period should be implemented on funding stimulus programs in

order to observe their practicality and success.

Now the President and his team have given their proposed federal budget for 2010. After the bloated stimulus bill was passed, the White House was ready to throw more money into our ever growing spending spree.

The 2010 budget calls for \$3.6 trillion to fund the government and its programs. The need for a budget is not the issue. Republicans and Democrats realize our country needs a budget to operate; the looming deficits are the problem.

The 2010 budget foresees the federal debt climbing to \$11 trillion and within one year reaching \$14 trillion. Aside from the astronomical amounts of money being thrown about, the White House budget raises taxes on citizens, businesses, and energy producers. Let's be real, using tax hikes and driving up costs is more like forcing Americans to conform to White House policy. These developments are startling to say the least.

The swift action by the Democrats has been nothing more than an unrestrained spending sprawl. The only outlook for America's future is an ever growing accumulation of debt. We can all agree that our government needs to act and must respond to the daunting challenges the U.S. faces. This does not mean Congress should enact the very first idea that comes to mind. The solution lies in one that is prudent, thoughtful, and practical. How considerate of our federal government to pile debt onto past debt for us and future Americans to deal with. The President and Congress should treat our tax dollars and economy as if it was their own finances-after all, they work for us.



# The science of class

By Benjamin Portney  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Writing papers, completing labs and printing out blackboard handouts are just a few steps on the college student's perpetual "to-do" list.

Although essays and other homework outside the classroom take up the majority of our precious college freedom, another camouflaged "priority" has been consuming our life since the beginning of childhood: actually going to class. In some situations it doesn't necessarily have to be number one on your list. Think about how many hours you've spent in class doodling, coloring in the holes of the various "o's," "b's" and "p's" on the dittos, or simply just zoning out to everything around you.

Over the years most of us have programmed in our minds that attending class is essential for survival, yet when most of us sit there, we aren't learning; we just think to ourselves "I'll study before the test." We do this because we know that reading and highlighting the book or looking over the pre-made PowerPoint's made by the professor will get us the same unpredictable grades we're used to earning since high school. Additionally, some professors require attendance and will penalize you for missing a class. Rules like these are misguided and unproductive.

Orientation in the fall stresses the responsibility of being an individual in college, yet we can't even choose our own attendance to a class that is completely over-paid for by our parents. We stay motivated as students by thinking about how much our parents invested in our education and one day paying them back. In order to accomplish this, we'll cram before a huge Biology exam by studying ridiculously long hours (and feel that false sense of accomplishment afterwards) because that's what we did to get into Muhlenberg in the first place. Success in college is measured by our output, not our input. As college students we recognize that the harder we work, the better the grades we get, but sometimes hard work simply doesn't apply to class. The path to a career has been so dissected through the years, it's like we live with our future salaries on a constant ticker. When I get a disappointing grade I picture the numbers on the ticker flipping wildly like I'm waiting for my train time to come up on the board at Penn Station. In reality it's not like that (at least I hope).

I see college as a place to find where you belong (socially, professionally, romantically, etc.) and as a place to expand our knowledge of our hobbies and desired careers. If you can't see yourself working with your uncle at his Fortune 500 Company after college, and feel like you were born to separate the burnt Fritos from the good ones at the Lays factory, then go for it. College is where it's socially acceptable to be spontaneous, but hey, if you decide to work somewhere because that's the "safe" thing to do then this article wasn't for you. There definitely are those students that choose jobs for family reasons or money, and that's great. But for the students like us that haven't planned out their life: throw away the "to-do" list and see what you're naturally attracted to. You're already at Muhlenberg, see what it has to offer and work with it. Like the bottom of my Magic Hat bottle cap said, "Seek to Inspire and lead others higher."

## SUSTAINABILITY

FROM PAGE 3

larger issue is the need to ensure that our water remains safe by protecting and preserving our waterways and conserving water and other resources. The social, environmental, and political costs of bottled water are higher than those of tap water. Just ask the people in Fryeburg, Maine, and in other communities around the world, whose wells have run dry after companies began bottling water at high rates of extraction from local aquifers. This debate about the sustainability of the bottled water industry is particularly timely since we are in the middle of the United Nation's International Decade for Action: Water for Life. While we are generally blessed with an abundance of potable water here in the Northeast US, issues of water scarcity are having a substantial impact in the western states of our country and in many other countries, and we all have a responsibility as citizens to educate ourselves about the impact of our actions on long-term water supplies for all people.

The installation of additional spouts, and in some cases, filters, on existing campus water fountains has been undertaken to meet student, staff, and visitor demand for readily available, convenient water, while reducing the negative environmental and social impacts of bottled water consumption. The resources used in production of the necessary filters and spouts is substantially less than that used by the production of water bottles consumed on campus and may reduce the number of bottles abandoned in hallways, walkways, and classrooms. You may not notice the quantities of abandoned bottles unless you are one of the engaged citizens of our community who have developed a habit of picking them up and placing them in the appropriate recycling bin; thus making some small sacrifice of personal convenience in the interest of the common good. If you are one of the people engaged in maintaining the aesthetic value of our campus, thank you. We do not have the marketing and advertising power of the big water bottlers, but we hope to influence you to consider the impact of your daily choices, including from what container you drink. We look forward to continuing this dialogue as we all work toward the ongoing betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

The Greening Committee:

Mrs. Cara Owens, Sustainability Coordinator,  
Mr. Kent Dyer, Chief Business Officer and Treasurer,  
Dr. Richard Niesenbaum, Chair of Sustainability Studies, Biology,  
Mr. David Rabold, Capital Projects Manager,  
Dr. Lora Taub, Chair of Media and Communication,  
Mr. Aaron Bova, Associate Director of Housing Services,  
Mr. Dick Begbie, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, &  
Dr. Jack Gambino, Chair of Political Science

# College unaffordable for millions



## World News & Politics

Joe Caporoso  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

As high school students, most Americans like to believe achieving academic success and excelling in extracurricular activities will afford them the chance to have a wide selection of colleges. However, the

recent economic downturn in America is beginning to limit the college selection process for middle-class families. It is starting to become economically unreasonable to look at out-of-state colleges, while state universities are being forced to swallow large budget cuts, limiting their ability to effectively educate their student body.

A recent report from the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education has found college tuitions and feeds have increased a whopping 439 percent from 1982 to 2007.

Average family income hasn't risen to a rate anywhere near that percentage, meaning most middle class families are forced to finance their children's education by acquiring massive debt through student loans. The report concludes that in the next 25 years, college may simply become unaffordable for most lower and middle class families, hurting America's development of

the next generation of engineers, politicians, scientists, and educators.

The report compared net college costs, which included tuitions, textbooks, room and board, against median family income in America. A four-year public university amounts 28 percent of the family's income, while a four-year private university can cost up to 76 percent of the median family income. Students are graduating under the weight of heavy debt, which often discourages them from pursuing advanced degrees. The number of students who graduate with over 25,000 dollars in loans had tripled over the past twenty years. In a difficult job market, it is a scary prospect to attempt to begin your career under the pressure of such heavy debt.

Tuition is rising at both public and private universities. As Muhlenberg College students, we have all noticed the increase in




tuition over the past few years. It is hard to imagine how much four years of college is going to cost our kids, especially if they want to attend a school like Muhlenberg. More affordable state colleges are being forced to make major cutbacks, which is increasing class sizes, leading to overcrowded campus housing, and preventing professors from gaining tenure.

President Obama has spent a lot of time talking about making college more affordable for Americans, by improving the financial aid and student loan system. Our country needs to see results from his new budget plan in the field of education.

America still remains the world's lone superpower, but that doesn't mean other countries aren't competing with us economically and technologically. We can't make it fiscally impossible for millions of Americans to pursue the education they deserve.



# Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Partly Cloudy	Few Showers	Showers
High: 61 Low: 40	High: 52 Low: 46	High: 55 Low: 38

## The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Henry Awards Nominations

**Rookie of the Year:** Alexandra Chili, Rachel Jakubowicz, Philip Weisgold  
**Performing Artist:** Donna Ward, Michele Sasso, Michael Miller  
**Female Athlete:** Alex Faust, Lauren Boyle, Brittany Williams  
**Male Athlete:** John Deluca, Christian Conti, Robert Janowitz  
**RA of the Year:** Tori Ahrens, Craig Marone, Steve Balliet  
**Helping Hand:** Katherine Bemis, Jason Steinberg, Abraham Rubin  
**Community Service Project:** Relay for Life, Pancake Palooza, Jefferson Field Day  
**Female Greek:** Aly Williams, Christina Vergos, Dani Miller  
**Male Greek:** Justin Demko, Ryan Kurtis, Alex Kennedy  
**Excellence in Diversity Programming:** Kamila Jacob, Chris Alvaro, Eric Thompson  
**Performing Group:** Hip-Hop Collective, M.I.A, Gospel Choir  
**Organization of the Year:** College Democrats, IM Sports, Enact  
**Unsung Hero:** Steven Epting, Matthew Katz, Jenna Piccinni  
**Sports Team of the Year:** W. Basketball, Football, Ice Hockey  
**Greek Organization:** Phi Kappa Tau, Delta Tau Delta, Phi Mu  
**Event of the Year:** Acapella Remix, 3 vs. 3 Basketball, Hillel Shabbat Dinners  
**Lifetime Achievement Winner:** Dick Begbie

## Peoples Choice Awards

**Support Staff:** Christine Ebner, Chef Sherry Gergar, Deborah Klinger  
**Management:** Lee Kolbe, Jane Schubert, Mike Bruckner  
**Faculty:** Sharon Albert, Paul Meier, Larry Hass  
**Student Leader:** Jason Steinberg, Sarah Keller, Adrian Shanker

*Coming to you April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009!*

## OFF CAMPUS

### Obama apologizes to Special Olympics

President Barack Obama has apologized to the chairman of the Special Olympics for his quip on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno," in which he equated his bowling skills to those of athletes with disabilities. Obama appeared on the late-night talk show on Thurs., Mar. 19, and told Leno that he had been practicing at the White House's bowling alley and had bowled a score of 129 which he was not content with. He then remarked: "It was like the Special Olympics or something."

The Special Olympics is a non-profit organization devoted to individuals with mental and physical disabilities and, although the audience laughed at the remark, the White House quickly recognized the mistake.

On his way back to Washington, the president called Tim Shriver, the chairman of the Special Olympics, to say that he was sorry. This apology was made before the taped program aired late Thursday night. Shriver appeared on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Fri., Mar. 20 and revealed, "He expressed his disappointment and he apologized in a way that was very moving. He expressed that he did not intend to humiliate this population." Shriver also said that Obama would like to have some Special Olympic athletes visit the White House to bowl or play basketball.

Shriver further stated, "I think it's important to see that words hurt and words do matter. And these words that in some respect can be seem as humiliating or a put down to people with special needs do cause pain and they do result in stereotypes." Shriver is the son of Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver and nephew of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. It was actually Kennedy's endorsement early in the Democratic primaries which proved critical to Obama winning his party's nomination.

Deputy Press Secretary Bill Burton assured reporters traveling with Obama that the president's inattentive remark was by no means meant to disparage the Special Olympics. Rather it was meant only to be a joke about the president's bowling skills. Burton said, "He thinks that the Special Olympics are a wonderful program that gives an opportunity to shine to people with disabilities from around the world."

### Sudan president defies warrant on war crimes charges in Darfur while abroad

On Mon., Sudanese President Omar Al Bashir traveled to Eritrea, one of Africa's most isolated nations. This was one of his first trips abroad since the Netherlands-based International Criminal Court's (ICC) Mar. 4th decision to seek his arrest on charges of war crimes in Darfur. Al Bashir is being charged with leading a counterinsurgency against Darfur rebels involving killings, rapes, and additional atrocities against civilians. His one day visit was in response to Eritrea's official invitation to Al Bashir, who was greeted enthusiastically at the Eritrean capital, Asmara, by his counterpart President Isaias Afwerki, along with drummers and dancers.

Press was informed that Al Bashir's visit was for the purpose of discussing regional security, and was called "important" and a reflection of Eritrean "solidarity...with Sudan against the ICC" by Sudanese Foreign Minister Deng Alor. Eritrea served as a kind of safe-haven for Bashir, as the ICC was prevented from carrying out the arrest while the President was in territory that is not a signatory of the ICC.

The Eritreans support Al Bashir and his government, believing that the ICC's decision is "unjustifiable and illegal, illogical and futile," according to Eritrean Information Minister Ali Abdu. Al Bashir is seeking out additional support in his scheduled attendance at the Arab League summit on Mar. 27 in the small Gulf nation Qatar. The 22-member League has stated publicly that they will welcome Al Bashir. However, much of the Sudanese public has been calling for their President to stay home from the event, fearing his arrest, although Qatar is also not an ICC signatory. According to numerous sources close to the president, Al Bashir does not believe that anything stands in the way of his visit to Qatar.

The United States and the U.N. have harshly criticized Al Bashir and his government's involvement in Darfur, agreeing that he has committed war crimes. Most recently, Al Bashir's rage at the ICC has caused him to expel thirteen different international aid organizations from Darfur, accusing them of spying. The removal of these groups from Darfur increases the danger that over 1.5 million people will face due to decreases in food supplies and medical care, according to the U.N.



## Correction!

In the article entitled "Women and Mental Health" in the Mar. 19 issue it was incorrectly stated that the first chapter of *Active Minds* was started in 2001 at the University of Pennsylvania. *Active Minds* was actually started at Penn in the Fall of 2001 by Alison Malmon and she then established the national organization, *Active Minds, Inc* in the Summer of 2003.

## Campus Safety Notes

- Mar. 16 - Found Property - A set of keys was found in the Egner Memorial Chapel. The item was placed in the evidence locker.
- Mar. 16 - Larceny/Theft - In Parent's Plaza, an eight-foot table was stolen, valued at \$125. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 16 - Found Property - At the President's House, 339 Leh St., there was a report of found street signs in the rear yard, possibly taken from the Phi Mu lot. Plant Operations was called to pick up the signs. It cost \$35 to replace one sign that was badly damaged. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 16 - Institutional Vandalism - In Benfer Hall, first floor, a reporting party called about glass found broken on the bulletin board. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 16 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 407/109 N. 23 St., a fire alarm sounded due to hairspray. The system was reset and there were no further incidents.
- Mar. 16 - Injured Employee - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, an employee was injured and taken to the Health Center. There was no further incident.
- Mar. 16 - Larceny/Theft - In Walz Hall, first floor, a reporting party called to report the theft of a 4x6 "water hog" rug. The rug is valued at \$97. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 16 - Illegally Parked Vehicle - In the Martin Luther parking lot, an officer booted an unregistered vehicle with excessive unpaid tickets. The boot was later removed after speaking with the Controller's Office.
- Mar. 16 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost digital Canon camera on campus.
- Mar. 16 - Larceny/Theft - In the Trexler Library, A Level, there was a report of a stolen video switch box from the Level A seminar room. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 16 - Unauthorized Person/People - In the Robertson/South Halls fire lane, there were six young skateboarders going down the steps between South and Robertson Halls. A verbal warning was given.
- Mar. 17 - Sick Student - In East Hall, G Block, first floor, there was a report of a sick student. The Health Center was notified and an officer transported the student there.
- Mar. 17 - Suspicious Person - In Parent's Plaza, there was a report of a suspicious white male, late 30s to early 40s, glasses, blue-green checkered shirt, khaki shorts, asking students for money. Officers brought the individual to the Campus Safety office to be identified and was released.
- Mar. 17 - Suspicious Person - In the front drive, there was a black male in a green Ford Explorer, wearing a red and blue sweatshirt, baseball cap, in his 30s to 40s, trying to sell coat hangers. The person was identified by officers and was told to leave campus.
- Mar. 17 - Harassment - In Prosser Hall, Campus Safety office, there was an informational report of verbal harassment. The student was advised to notify Campus Safety if it occurs again.
- Mar. 18 - Lost Property - In the New Science Building, first floor, there was a report of a lost Pulsar stainless steel watch.
- Mar. 18 - Lost Property - There was a report of a stolen debit card. The person was advised to cancel the card.
- Mar. 18 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost parking sticker on campus.
- Mar. 18 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2235 Gordon St., a fire alarm sounded from steam from a shower. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 18 - Suspicious Person - On Liberty St., an officer reported seeing individuals looking into vehicles. Campus Safety followed the vehicle and the individuals were spoken to. Allentown Police Department was given the vehicle license information and will investigate.
- Mar. 19 - Institutional Vandalism - In the East Hall Quad Area, a charcoal grill that had been cemented in the ground at the East Quad and was apparently hit by an SUV and is lying on its side. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 19 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost wallet probably in the front of either Benfer or Moyer.
- Mar. 19 - Found Property - In the Life Sports Center, there was a report of possible found property, previously reported stolen carpet runner was found under the rear wheel of a vehicle. A note was left on the vehicle for the owner to contact Campus Safety. The vehicle was not registered.
- Mar. 19 - Unauthorized Person/People - In front of Trumbower, "Dan the book buyer" was seen leaving Trumbower after being told to leave. He is approximately five feet, eight inches tall, medium build, approximately 55 years old, short salt and pepper (mostly grey) hair, wearing a dark blue jacket with a dark blue oversized duffel bag.
- Mar. 19 - Lost Property - In Prosser Hall, there was a report of a lost cell phone.
- Mar. 19 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2235 Gordon St., a fire alarm sounded due to cooking. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 19 - Check the Welfare/Locate - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, a student was located and the welfare was checked. There was no further incident.
- Mar. 20 - Sick Student - In Benfer Hall, first floor, there was a report of a sick student. Health Center was notified. Muhlenberg College EMS responded. The student refused medical treatment.
- Mar. 20 - Institutional Vandalism - At the President's House (339 Leh St), the picket fence was damaged on the south side of the house. Plant Operations was notified to repair. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 20 - Institutional Vandalism - In Walz Hall, an officer observed shaving cream at the north entrance of Walz Hall. The shaving cream was found on the door, card reader and concrete front. Photos were taken and were referred to housekeeping for clean up.
- Mar. 20 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2201 Chew St., a fire alarm sounded. An officer reported that burnt toast set off the alarm. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 21 - Noise Complaint - On Allen St, there was a report of a noise complaint. Allentown Police Department responded. A disruptive conduct report will be issued. Referred to the Dean of Students Office.
- Mar. 21 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transport - In Seegers Union, there was a report of an alcohol violation by a visitor. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and transported the person to the hospital.
- Mar. 21 - Larceny/Theft - In Seegers Union, there was a report of a student with stolen property. Cameras were checked but no identification can be made. The suspect is unable to be located.
- Mar. 21 - Found Property - In the Center for the Arts, a camera was found, and was placed in the evidence lockers.
- Mar. 21 - Criminal/Malicious Mischief - At 2263 Turner St, building 2, there was a report of vandalism. There were smashed beer bottles and wall damage. Pictures were taken. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 22 - Fire/Safety Violation - In Prosser Hall Main, third floor, there was a report of a possible party, but it had disbanded. The smoke detector was found covered. A fire safety fine will be issued. Referred to Judicial.
- Mar. 22 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, Transport - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, there was an alcohol violation and drug paraphernalia was found in a room. Referred to Judicial.
- Mar. 22 - Simple Assault - On N. 22 St., there was a report of assault as per Allentown Communication Center. Upon arrival, Allentown Police Department was on scene and was talking with the individual. The student was hit by someone he played pool with at the Tavern on Friday. No further suspect information was provided. There was no further incident.
- Mar. 22 - Institutional Vandalism - In South Hall, there was a report of an overturned trash can. Plant Operations assisted with clean up. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 22 - Sick Visitor - In South Hall, third floor, there was a report of a sick visitor. Person was transported to the hospital.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience: this is the ideal life."

- Mark Twain

## Mr. Muhlenberg 2009

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS CO-EDITOR

"Can I just tell you, there are so many people outside, it's ridiculous," a student quipped to a friend while saving seats in Memorial Hall, accurately describing the line of students that wove through hallways on Wed. Mar. 18. Always a crowd pleaser, the eleventh annual Mr. Muhlenberg competition had roughly 700 students eagerly awaiting this year's night of competition.

Once the bleachers were packed, Mr. Muhlenberg began by establishing the well-kept secret theme: Spring Break in Cancun. Hosts Brian Wernick and Trish Kadakia introduced the nine male contestants as well as the three judges, Dr. Jeremy Teissere, Dr. Hartley Lachter, and Dr. Don Dale, all professors on campus. None of the judges had ever seen a Mr. Muhlenberg contest prior to the event, so they were all-together unsure of what to expect. Their job was to give each contestant numerical ratings for five different categories: Ticket Sales, Originality, Creativity, Execution, and Overall. "We're looking for someone who's confident enough to be themselves," Judge Dale had stated just minutes before the lights went down. After viewing each of the contestants' unique introductions, which included everything from bear costumes to the Muhlenberg Gospel Choir, Judge Lachter remarked with a laugh, "it's interesting to see what our students do in their free time." A witty game show parody of "MTV's Spring Break Dating Show" by the hosts segued into the Swimsuit portion of the competition, in which the contestants modeled their best beach attire. The most important part of the show, however, followed another television show recreation, "Cash Cab," which featured Adam Rogers '10. The talent portion was a fantastic display of hard work and practice on the parts of each of the contestants.

John Falk '10 submitted a video on making Matzo balls, highlighting his persona as "King of the Jews." Adam Sosnik '09, performed the "Bruce Dickinson" SNL comedy sketch. Nick LaFalce '10, played the "perfect guitar solo," equipped with plucking the strings with his teeth. Many more musical performances

followed, including a piano performance by Eric Santagato '09 and numerous song and dance numbers, as performed by Mark Wiseman '09, Phil Weisgold '12, Joel Reitz '11, and Aaron Lawson '09. Despite widespread talent, audience and judges alike were wowed by the swing dancing of Peter Smith, '10, who would soon become the newly crowned Mr. Muhlenberg.

recent experience taking a class in partner acrobatics while abroad in Italy last semester, the choice to perform a swing dancing number was an easy one for Smith. He recruited fellow students and dancers Josh Tewell '11, Dana McGowan '10 and Nelle Ed '10 to perform in what he set up as a sort of dance-off; an act that he choreographed to "build upon itself," engage the audience,

an intensely acrobatic dance number, Smith acknowledged after the competition that he had been planning his talent, as well as the rest of his Mr. Muhlenberg performance, for quite some time. He first entertained thoughts about competing after attending the show his freshman year, where he served as a last-minute escort to one of the contestants. Smith remembered telling his friends on that night two years ago, "I want to do this; and I'm gonna win."

Smith's prediction came true in an exciting crowning that ended this year's competition. The crowning was preceded by a Formalwear and Question and Answer session, in which Smith was questioned about what song he would choose to play for the love of his life. He announced that she was backstage at that very moment, igniting a chorus of "awws" from the audience. (Smith's final answer was U2's "With or Without You.") This ability to engage the audience was one of the things that made Smith stand out to the judges. "He really knew how to work the crowd," remarked Dr. Lachter. Dr. Teissere added that every contestant did a great job, but he thought that Smith had the "tightest" performance. "It's kind of unreal," a smiling Smith said later of his win. "This is like my dream come true."

Second runner up, Aaron Lawson, and first runner up, Phil Wiesgold, were also full of smiles and gratitude. Wiesgold, the first freshman to place higher than second runner up in the history of Mr. Muhlenberg, called the competition "a great experience, especially as a freshman." Lawson and Wiesgold displayed strong effort in their talent portions as well; Lawson sang and danced with a group of friends who ran on stage from the audience to a live band's rendition of "Steppin' Time" from Mary Poppins. Wiesgold also energetically performed his way through the popular Beyonce song, "Single Ladies," with members of the Perkulators dance team dancing along with the song's music video, which was played in the background.

Both the Perkulators and the dance team MINT performed during



Peter Smith '10, poses after winning the title of Mr. Muhlenberg 2009.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

Smith, a theatre major, had a lot to think about in preparing his talent. He saw Mr. Muhlenberg as the perfect opportunity to choreograph a dance to "Sing Sing Sing (With a Swing)," a swing number presumably known to many as "the Chips Ahoy commercial song." With his background as a gymnast and his

and allow him to stand out as a competitor. The group began rehearsing the number together with a five hour practice the Saturday before the show, and continued their preparation each day after that leading up to the event.

Despite having practiced less than many would have thought for such

SEE MR. M.  
PAGE 12

# Baker artist raising a ruckus

By Brendon Votipka  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Every year Muhlenberg is fortunate to host a Baker Artist in Residence. This year's artist is taking on many roles: by night she stands on Empie stage as a mythic feathered goddess possessing the power of speech and storytelling in a new dance theatre work, by day she guides young writers in the studio, and one night only she will share her powerful solo work featuring performances from her newest album of hip-hop flavored expression.

Ursula Rucker, a Philadelphia native and internationally respected artist, holds the Baker residency this year. She is a self-described activist, poet, art lover and ruckus bringer. As a recording artist she has enchanted critics and fans across the world through her "diverse repertoire, captivating vocals and accessible poetic verse." She has been

sharing her mesmerizing vocals and songwriting skills with an array of artists and producers since 1994. Ursula's signature style is her soft spoken eloquence and unstoppable honesty which has transfixed audiences from Tokyo to Capetown.

Muhlenberg students may recognize her from albums by The Roots, but she has collaborated with some of music's most sophisticated hip hop, word, and musical artist including King Britt, 4 Hero, Jamaaladeen Tacuma, and Josh Wink. Ursula has cultivated her seductive wordplay inside Philly soul, hip-hop, and new jazz. She is noted for combining social awareness with womanhood, black culture, and love for musical allure. Ursula's new CD, *Ruckus Soundsysdom* (2008) released on King Britt's FiveSix label, follows a trilogy of albums: *Supa Sista* (2001), *Silver or Lead* (2003) and *Ma at Mama* (2006).

A passionate, visionary poet who

claims Sonia Sanchez as her mentor, Ursula Rucker will perform in concert from her newly released disc on Britt's FiveSix label, *Ruckus Soundsysdom*. Her fourth album, *Ruckus...*, continues to channel her strength as a mother, activist, artist and partner through words, rhythms and music. Accompanied by guitarist Tim Motzer and musicians on keyboard, electronics, bass and drum, Ursula Rucker's solo concert performance is a journey of soul and poetry, accompanied by jazz, hip hop, soul and experimental music.

Philadelphia's City Paper calls this album "the most electronic, funky, intelligent work yet." This performance is a must-see event and is free for members of the campus community. Tickets for the Mar. 31, 8:00 p.m. event are required and should be picked up in advance at the Box Office.

The Theatre and Dance Department production *Caw*, which runs this week from Mar. 26 to 29, features Ursula as a centerpoint of the story. She plays the mythic Aunt Eloie, a foil to Uncle Remus. Her character is a spectacular, feathered goddess who possesses and shadows the characters of various intertwined stories. Ursula's character Aunt Eloie, Queen of Crows, embraces discomfort, paradox, rudeness, exposure and complication.

*Caw* is described as an ambitious collaborative work of dance theatre that invokes the rich, raucous oral tradition of Southern storytelling, with its roots in both Native American and African culture. The core of the performance piece is mystery, movement, character and ritual that emerge as an allegory of race and power in America.

Its co-creators, Professors Charles O. Anderson and Troy Dwyer have created a fusion of dance, performance poetry, romantic fantasy, dramatic action, and audacious gay cultural expression, *Caw* assembles and disassembles cultural archetypes and stereotypes, molding them into a pantheon of vivid contemporary characters.

*Caw* includes a diverse cast of students, faculty actress Holly Cate and two professional dancers from

Anderson's Company dance theatre X.In addition to her role in this premiere theatre dance production and her solo performance, Ursula has another mentoring component to her residency. Ursula has been guiding Muhlenberg and Lehigh University students in a series of performance poetry workshops on Saturdays. Students are crafting their own original pieces and working on the material in class. The students have written with honesty and ferocity, exploring their perceptions of the beauty and the frustration of the human condition. Their work will be shared with the public in open performances on Apr. 3 in the Red Door Cafe.

Freshman Jasmine Jefferson is participating in the workshop and will share her words in the concert. After one of the workshops she said, "Ursula is an artist with an eclectic, fresh, invigorating, and breathtaking sense of spoken word. And beyond spoken word, she is an artist who understands what it means to provide something for an audience." Students involved in the workshop are greatly looking forward to share their words after such inspiring workshops.

Jefferson says that "Ursula has provided me with a sense of confidence in my artistic ability allowing me to evolve in how my art affects the Muhlenberg campus."

The Baker Foundation is a private family foundation which provides grants for program development and expansion in the arts and arts education in the Lehigh Valley. Recent Baker artists at Muhlenberg have included nationally renowned modern choreographers and master puppeteers from Germany. Next year's Baker artist will be Charles Strouse, composer of musicals such as *Annie* and *Bye Bye Birdie*.

The Theatre department will present Strouse's new musical *An American Tragedy*, based on the book by Theodore Dreiser. For years the Baker artist program has provided Muhlenberg Humanities students of the College and the campus at large with personal experiences involving a wide variety of world class artists.

Don't miss your chance to witness an artist of this caliber in *Caw* and in her solo show *Ruckus* on Mar. 31.



Ursula Rucker in costume with the creators of *Caw* Troy Dwyer and Charles O. Anderson

PHOTO BY KEN EK

## Call for Plays

The 2009 edition of New Voices, an evening of student written one-act plays to be presented as part of the 2009-2010. Muhlenberg Theatre Main Stage Season. All Muhlenberg student playwrights are encouraged to submit new dramatic work ranging in length from 10 minutes to 40 minutes. Open to all students, including non-theatre majors.

Please submit work via e-mail to Charles Richter richter@muhlenberg.edu by Friday, April 3rd  
Be sure your contact information is on the title page of the script.  
if you have questions, please contact Charles Richter ext.3330.



## Are you capable of being a friend with benefits?

By Erin Futrovsky  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

A friend with benefits (FWB) opportunity is extremely hard to pass up. What could be better than sex without emotional attachment, right? There is something immensely satisfying about calling a FWB after you've spent a Saturday night party-hopping, and knowing that he'll be gone by the time morning rolls around and it's time to snap back to reality. After you've called him and hinted that it's pretty much imperative that he makes his way over to your room pronto, you're sure that he's searching for his car keys like there is no tomorrow. You know that he wants you, only you, and all of you-for at least a little while.

Before you let him in, you check your hair knowing, but ignoring, that it's not going to look like this in a few hours. You're going to have a fabulous night full of hot sex, and there are no strings attached. Of course, before you attain this heightened sense of non-relationship bliss—we need to establish a few rules about the way that the FWB system works.

Note: It is extremely important to properly implement all of these rules. In order for two people to be friends with benefits, they both need to accept, internalize, and practice all of them. If even one rule is broken, the chance of destroying the FWB non-relationship becomes apparent. If you don't think you can follow all of these rules to a T, then you probably can't.

Rule #1: You may not, under any circumstances, speak to your FWB about the fact that you want to be anything more than FWB.

If you do, it will most certainly add strings to a "no strings attached" situation, and that's not what you two signed up for. Always remember to K.I.S.S. Keep it simple, stupid. Why make things awkward when they don't have to be?

Rule #2: You never ever relinquish any detail of any sexual act that you and your FB engage in.

Keeping it a secret is half the fun, and it's no one else's business but yours.

Rule #3: It is not acceptable to talk to anyone about your FB situation.

When I say anyone, your best friend from high school who doesn't know the guy counts. Your cooperating teacher at field-work counts. The kid that sits

behind you in your physics class counts. Everyone counts. The rationale is this: you do not want people judging you based on your situation. As harsh and unfair as it is, having sex without being in a committed relationship is looked down upon by a lot of people. What's the point in putting your sex life out in the open just to be criticized, or to get a high-five from the occasional frat brother.

Ready for a pop quiz?

1. You go home for break and your friends and parents start bugging you about finding a significant other. "It's about time," they say.

You say:

a) "I have a fabulous boyfriend and we have sex all the time."

b) "Yeah? Well, I'm seeing this guy at school."

c) "Alright, alright, I'll start looking."

d) "Really? Because I got married in Vegas last weekend. So there."

2. You're out at a bar, and some guy is blatantly trying to pick you up. He asks you if you have a boyfriend. You're kind of interested, but you remember your FWB at school.

You say:

a) "Boyfriend? Define boyfriend..."

b) "I mean, kind of?"

c) "No. No boyfriend here."

d) "Yes, and we're actually discussing marriage."

The answer to both questions is C. Always C. If you do answer anything other than C, you are implying that you are seeing more of him than his naked body, and that's certainly not the case now, is it?

If you, even for one second, want something more than sex—get out. Get out fast, and stay out. The last thing you want is to make a FWB situation complicated. Why have a friend with benefits when you can have a meaningful relationship with good conversation, flowers, chocolate, and love? Because it's just hot. You know it's wrong, but you like it. You know your mother would not approve—and that's what makes it better. Lastly, when it's over, you'll know. Maybe he's found someone else. Or she's realized that she just can't handle the non-commitment. Don't call. Don't text. Just accept it. Hey, it was good while it lasted, right?

## A good ol' factory girl

By Kevin Tomasura  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

As we should know from elementary school, there are six senses. Each of these senses allow us to observe, analyze, categorize and understand the world we live in, and together, they culminate in the comprehensive image that we call life. Our bodies and minds work together to gather, interpret and react to these senses, utilizing a brilliant network of receptors spread out across the whole of our bodies.

These senses include the ability to see, to taste, to touch, to hear, to see dead people, and to smell, and often, they are placed in just that order. It is smell, the last of these sacred senses, which is often the most underappreciated.

Human beings, thinking themselves gifted in terms of sight, touch and sound, fail to realize that they are in fact lacking in all the senses when compared to even a household pet. We don't have the sense of smell of a blood hound, nor the sight of an eagle.

Our hearing is so poor, children in school can set their phones to ring at tones inaudible to adults just three times their age. In terms of taste, we are obviously significantly behind the evolutionary advantages gained by animals like koalas, whose taste palette is so advanced they proudly snack upon poisonous leaves.

Even the common little kitty-kat has taste much more developed than ours, after all they find something in that unintelligible mass of mush which we call cat food that we humans could never find. To them that stuff is a delicacy, or at least I assume it is when it is always served in your Grandma's best set of diamond glasses when I see it on TV.

When it comes to touch, humans think they've got the competition beat, being one but a handful of animals who find great pleasure in the joys of sex. We think we must be better than trees at least, they don't even get to have sex, and of course we have to be better than those hornets who rape spiders, plant their eggs and then allow their babies to feast on the spiders, use it as a home, and eventually mind control them so effectively that said spider builds the little baby bees a house out of webs.

How often do you see the human equivalent of the bastard sons of rapists eating their mothers after forcing them to build a house? Hopefully not very much, as that would be habi-

tat without humanity. Nevertheless, despite the inadequacies of some other species, there are still animals like dolphins who get the pleasure of a foot long prehensile (meaning completely controllable, much like a monkey's tail) penis that their mates tend to have.

Even a barely pubescent dolphin could cum at a force so powerful, it could break the human spine. Come on, that would put Ron Jeremy to shame. Besides dolphins, our bacony friends at the local farm, pigs, tend to have thirty minute orgasms. And they didn't even have to read Cosmo to do it!

Regardless of our apparent shortcomings as sensual beings, humans still make do with what they've got, and though our senses may be weak by comparison, our creativity in using them has no bounds.

With the invention of scented candles, flavored condoms, those little holographic collectable cards, and vibrators, we have leaped far ahead of any being in the animal kingdom. The markets for sensual items are by far the most profitable, and even companies like Axe are making a killing just by giving its over-zealous users the delusional fantasy that bathing themselves in flammable liquid will make women grope them with insatiable desire.

While this might be a myth, herein lies a bit of revealing truth to how the human body works. Axe may not do it right, but they do have the right idea. It is scent, one of the least loved of all the senses, which might just be the most important.

Scent is often considered the strongest sense tied to memory, and in fact is one of the most overtly sexual ones as well. While it might be voyeurism which so dominates the sexual world and touch which we all aim for, the one that subconsciously conquers us all, is smell. It is through the power of pheromones that we feel our greatest attractions.

Pheromones are powerful chemical indicators, secreted and released to great effect in most animals. These specific and potent scents are each tied to a specific purpose, ranging from establishing territorial boundaries, to attracting a mate.

With the range of over a dozen miles, some sex pheromones have the power to lure a potential suitor from far beyond the range of any of the other senses.

These scents also trigger biological reactions such as alarms, causing all nearby members of the species to act with a fight or flight response. Summoning a horde of termites to

Battle  
of  
the Sexes



# Gossip Guru: The Week in Celebrity News

By Robyn Cohen  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

It was a big week for celebrity weddings in Hollywood. Bruce Willis wed model Emma Hemming this past Saturday in Turks & Caicos. Despite the couple's 22-year age difference, Willis and Hemming tied the knot in an intimate ceremony with a small group of family and friends present. Willis' ex-wife, Demi Moore, was among the guests, along with her current husband, Ashton Kutcher. Willis' three daughters with Moore were also in attendance. Willis and Hemming had been together for over a year before marrying.

David Letterman married long-time girlfriend Regina Lasko, in a civil ceremony at a courthouse in Montana. Their five-year-old son, Harry, was at the ceremony.

British singer Natasha Bedingfield also tied the knot this week to her boyfriend, Matthew Robison. The outdoor

wedding took place on a vineyard in Malibu, California overlooking the ocean.

Actors Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart are reportedly engaged. Ford is said to have proposed to Flockhart over Valentine's Day weekend. The pair has been dating for seven years and has an adopted son together.

In some unfortunate couples' news, country singer LeAnn Rimes was recently caught having an affair with her costar. Rimes and actor Eddie Cibrian, both married, starred together in the recently-aired Lifetime movie *Northern Lights*. The illicit affair was captured on a security camera at a California restaurant, where the two were dining. The video shows the pair leaning in close over their table, kissing and holding hands. Neither of the stars' publicists chose to comment on the alleged

affair.

Lindsay Lohan is speaking out about her bad reputation in the tabloids. The actress sat down for an interview with E! News in which she complains about the media's constant focus on her personal life. She even goes as far as to blame her current lack of movie roles on the tabloids and "sicko fans" who judge her and constantly scrutinize her choices. Lohan claims that any mistakes she has made are in the past, and that she is now trying to "move forward" with her life and career. As for future career aspirations, Lohan says, "I'd like to have my own charity, do work overseas, be in Oscar-nominated films, write movies, produce movies/shows/video, design clothes, make music, write books, etc." The star states that achieving these goals would be easier if only the press would stop reporting negative things about her.

In some upsetting news, actress Natasha Richardson passed away last week at the age of 45 following a fatal head injury she sustained in a skiing accident. Richardson was vacationing in Canada when the tragedy occurred. The actress fell and hit her head while skiing on the beginner's slope, causing what seemed at first to be a minor injury. Richardson was reportedly talking and laughing right after the fall. The injury soon became serious, and Richardson was taken to a Montreal hospital. It was found that she had suffered severe brain trauma, and was soon brain dead. Richardson was flown to a hospital in New York to be with her husband, actor Liam Neeson, sister, actress Joely Richardson, and mother, actress Vanessa Redgrave. She was then taken off life support with her family by her side. A memorial service was held in New York this past Friday night, with family and friends of the late actress to gathered to pay their respects.



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK: IF YOU COULD HAVE A MAGICAL POWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



"To control time, so I could optimize my time."  
- Jason Steinberg '11



"Teleportation."  
- Taylor Kalinisan '11



"The ability to heal myself when I get hurt."  
- Angela Lucci '10



"To be able to fly."  
- Andrew Lacey '12



"To be able to persuade anyone to do anything I want...to serve my agenda."  
- Jason LaMarca '09

COMPILED BY ROBYN COHEN

## AMC Weekend Listings



### 12 Rounds

Fri. 4:10, 7:20, 10:10  
Sat. 4:10, 7:20, 10:10  
Sun. 4:10, 7:20, 10:10

### Duplicity

Fri. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
Sat. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
Sun. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

### The Haunting in Connecticut

Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:00  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:00  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:00

### I Love You, Man

Fri. 4:40, 7:10, 9:30  
Sat. 4:40, 7:10, 9:30  
Sun. 4:40, 7:10, 9:30

### Knowing

Fri. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15  
Sat. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15  
Sun. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

### The Last House on the Left

Fri. 1:50, 7:50, 10:25  
Sat. 1:50, 7:50, 10:25  
Sun. 1:50, 7:50, 10:25

### Monsters vs. Aliens

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20



**MR. M.**

FROM PAGE 8

the contest, adding some female talent to the competition. Host Trish Kadakia '10 also represented the female talent of the College by posing as a tenth contestant during the guys' choreographed dance number, which once again had the audience hoarse with cheers and laughter.

The overwhelming success of this year's Mr. Muhlenberg is owed largely to the people who planned, advertised for, and put together the event, which was run and funded by Student Council, in particular the Junior Class. This year's three chairs of the event were juniors Jordan Sones, Matt Pearson, and Barrie Schessler.

The chairs and the Junior Class booked Memorial Hall for the competition back in October. Since then, and particularly since the beginning of this semester, they worked diligently until the night of the 18th to plan the event. The semester began with open nominations for contestants, in which over 1400 nominations were submitted. Roughly thirty of these students were then interviewed by the chairs, as well as Dave Furman of Hillel and Nicole Kelman of Admissions, who then narrowed it down to the final contestants, upon whom they couldn't agree more. "We had the best contestants," chair member Schessler stated after the event. "They really put their hearts and souls into it."

Planning also involved working with Pepsi Marketing, for which a Muhlenberg student is currently interning. Pepsi sponsored the Crush taste testing event that preceded Mr. Muhlenberg, as well as the free t-shirts that were thrown into the audience and the two hundred dollar Visa gift card raffle, which was won by Chris Amarault '11. There will be more Pepsi sponsored events throughout the semester, which students are encouraged to seek out.

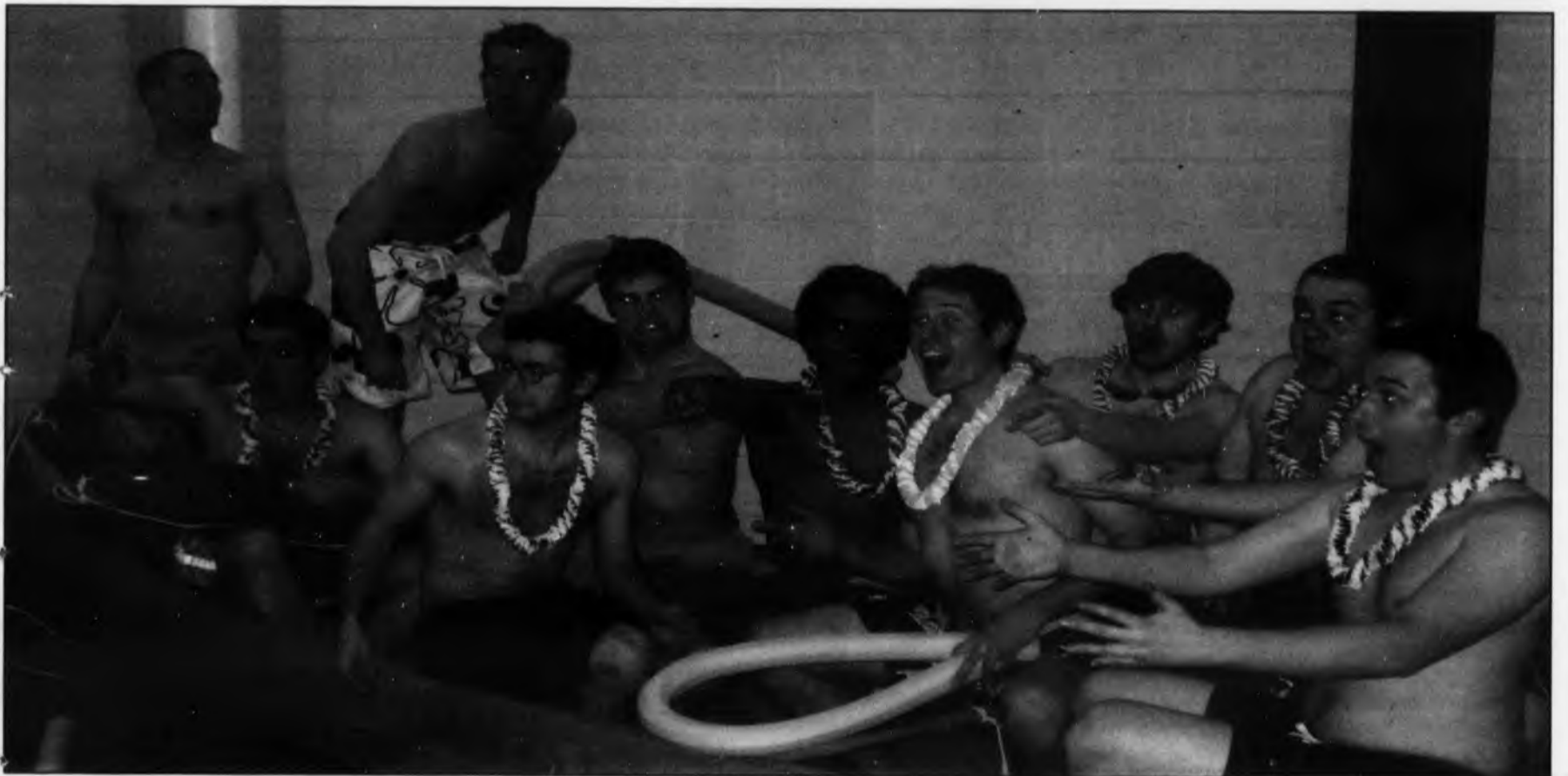
As for the mechanics of the event, chair members Sones and Pearson acknowledged the time and effort that was put into the design and set up of Memorial Hall, beginning the day before the competition. All of the electrical equipment, however, was rented for the day only and therefore set up in the hours before the competition with help from many other students. "It takes lots of preparation - months. But this," Pearson said after the competition, gesturing to the excited bustle of students offering their congratulations to the contestants "is why it pays off."

**Top Right: Nick LaFalce '10 shows off in a swimsuit.**

**Right: Aaron Lawson '09 dances with the Gospel Choir.**

**Bottom: The contestants strike poses in a boat.**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATTHEW PEARSON



**GIRL**  
FROM PAGE 9

charge or retreat, for example, these chemicals are what give the masses of creepy crawlers their cohesion. While the human form of pheromones might not be as useful as these insect varieties, this does not mean scent isn't in constant play.

Sexual pheromones are a guiding force in sexual attraction, and though someone might look foxy and fine, it is their delicious musk which might just lure us into bed. Though we may attempt to mask it with Febreze, these scents are causing us to react with primal instinct and without inhibition.

Scent, and how we interpret it, has been definitively linked to such perplexing factors as sexual orientation. Though the causal link is lacking, the correlation is proven, and brain patterns between homosexual males and heterosexual females are often quite similar when responding to the scent of a male. Some take this to mean that the chemical compositions linked to scent is a determinant of sexual orientation.

Still, they are not yet able to tell whether these patterns are the cause of homosexuality or the effect.

It could merely be that already being attracted to males could elicit the mental response, but it could also be that it is the scent itself which is causing the attraction in the first place.

All this is controversial, and up for much debate, but it is hard to deny some sort of important relation between scent and orientation. There are many other myths, half truths and tall tales associated with scent, and

among them are a few of my favorite. Supposedly, changing scents is a leading cause of divorce around the world. Apparently, couples who begin going out while the female is on birth control respond differently to each other than if she was not. Birth control impacts levels of hormones in the body, and causes different pheromones, and a different scent to be emitted. Were the male to be attracted to the female while here pheromones were affected by the chemicals in her BC, he could, theoretically, be unattracted to her if this stimulus were removed. If this scent changes, so does the intensity of attraction, and if a couple suddenly plans to have a child, and gets off birth control, the essential attraction between the two might just disappear. Maybe men aren't getting cold feet because of the responsibilities of a child, but rather it's that their girls aren't smelling as delicious as they used to. The source of these facts is surprisingly - no lie - Time Magazine.

This is but one of the myths of the magic of smell. Another potential myth is from the annals of our beloved Cosmo. This story goes that during ovulation, as a female's hormones change, pheromones are released differently from normal. Rather than creating an intense lust, these chemical instead cause a defensive reaction in males. In other words, males suddenly become overprotective of their females during ovulation, without even knowing it. I plan to test this assertion this month, and I will record how many men I beat up as my girlfriend flirts voraciously. I shall report back to you within two weeks with my follow up article on the harmful effects of getting into fist fights because of unsmellable scents.

## DZ Hop is a success!



DZ Hop was held Fri., Mar. 20 from 10 pm - 2 am, in the Red Door. Students were served unlimited plain and chocolate chip pancakes and orange juice. The DZ sisters cooked the pancakes in the Garden Room kitchen and served them in the Red Door. The \$4 entrance fee went to Gallaudet University in Washington D.C which is devoted to the needs of young deaf people and the Starskey Hearing Foundation that provides hearing health awareness and supports research and education.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DELTA ZETA

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A Sustainable Future.



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# NHL weekly power rankings

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

## 1. Detroit Red Wings (105 points)

Becoming the first team this season to both clinch the playoffs and reach the 100-point mark, and also becoming the first team in history to record 100 points in eight straight seasons, the Wings are on a four game winning streak and tearing up the league.

## 2. San Jose Sharks (104 points)

San Jose became the first team this season to clinch their division, and it isn't too tough for them being in a division that has only one team in the playoffs right now.

## 3. Boston Bruins (102 points)

The Bruins clinched a playoff spot, the first team in the Eastern Conference to do so, but they are still not playing too well. They are very close to being taken over by the Devils for first place.

## 4. New Jersey Devils (97 points)

Marty has 101 shutouts and is the league's winning-est goaltender in history. The Devils, for some odd reason, though, just cannot catch up to the Bruins.

## 5. Washington Capitals (96 points)

After a celebration that would make Don Cherry sick, Ovechkin finally reached the 50-goal mark for the third time in his short career. The Capitals are very close to clinching the Southeast division, and are still up there challenging for second and even first place.

## 6. Calgary Flames (88 points)

The Flames are dropping back, going 4-6 in their last ten games, and they are losing their lead in the Northwest division.

## 7. Philadelphia Flyers (88 points)

Philly is about at .500 in their last ten games, and just barely holding onto fourth place in the Eastern Conference, although they do have a few games in hand on the teams below them.

## 8. Pittsburgh Penguins (86 points)

Undefeated in regulation in their last ten games, the Penguins are now on the verge of home ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

## 9. Chicago Blackhawks (87 points)

They have accepted the fact that they are not going to be first in their division. But after the last few years, the Hawks would love to have the fourth seed in the playoffs.

## 10. Vancouver Canucks (85 points)

Vancouver is now in a position to challenge for the Northwest division lead, after Calgary struggled to put up points recently.

## 11. New York Rangers (84 points)

New York is now moving back up the standings, as they have sole possession of seventh place.

## 12. Florida Panthers (80 points)

Slowly dropping down the standings, the Panthers seem to be missing their old chum Olli Jokinen. They have to step it up in their last few weeks if they want to make the playoffs.

## 13. Montreal Canadiens (81 points)

On a five-game losing streak, the Canadiens are barely holding onto a playoff spot. Happy 100th year!

## 14. Nashville Predators (77 points)

Barry Trotz is slowly coaching this team to another improbably playoff

berth. Happens every year, we're used to it.

## 15. Carolina Hurricanes (85 points)

The Hurricanes have moved up into sixth place in the Eastern Conference, but are still two games ahead of the seventh through tenth place teams.

## 16. Columbus Blue Jackets (82 points)

Moving up to sixth place in the Western Conference, the Jackets are looking to make the playoffs for the first time. Scott Howson has put everything in place in order to get this done for the fans.

## 17. Buffalo Sabres (76 points)

The Sabres played a poor game against Philadelphia earlier in the week, and have now lost four straight games. Missing some lost-stars, are we?

## 18. St. Louis Blues (75 points)

Two points out of the final playoff spot, the Blues better not get their golf carts started yet. Because, you see, they may tear an ACL (sorry, force of habit).

## 19. Edmonton Oilers (79 points)

The Oilers moved into seventh place, and are on a three-game winning streak.

## 20. Ottawa Senators (74 points)

The Senators have won four straight games and propelled themselves to twelfth place in the Conference. There may not be enough time, though, to make the playoffs.

## 21. Minnesota Wild (76 points)

4-3-3 in their last ten, maybe signing an extension with Minnesota wasn't the best move for Backstrom...(Hey Nicky! Come to Philly!)

## 22. Anaheim Ducks (76 points)

The Rubber Duckies don't look too good, right now. Although they've won two straight games, they are still a good three points behind eighth place, and two spots...not where they should be, considering the talent they have on their roster.

## 23. Dallas Stars (74 points)

4-5-1 in their last ten games and on a three-game losing streak, the Stars are basically done for the year. Break out the golf clubs!

## 24. Los Angeles Kings (70 points)

Young Kings still need experience. They are playing well, but get ready to book another golf outing in April, Los Angeles.

## 25. Toronto Maple Leafs (73 points)

The Leafs are struggling to play well, still. 5-4-1 in their last ten is not enough to drive to the playoffs. What's with the Leafs and mediocrity? Make up your mind, either be good or bad. Jeez...

## 26. Atlanta Thrashers (66 points)

On a dominant five game winning streak, the Thrashers are far from a playoff berth, but they are showing that they have potential for the future.

## 27. Phoenix Coyotes (67 points)

Gretzky should just lace 'em up at this point...

## 28. Colorado Avalanche (64 points)

Three game losing streak = bye bye playoffs.

## 29. Tampa Bay Lightning (62 points)

The Lightning are on a three game losing streak. Woo! Tavares, anyone?

## 30. New York Islanders (56 points)

Okposo passes to Tavares, he shoots, he...well, he probably won't score...

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Rookie of the Year goes to a red hot Chili

By D. E. Wayne

SPORTS EDITOR

D3hoops.com has named Chili the Mid-Atlantic Region Rookie of the Year.

Starting 26 out of 30 games for Head Coach Ron Rohn, Chili became a force to be reckoned with on the floor. Dropping 20+ points nine times during the season for her team, Chili helped the Mules go an undefeated 18-0 in the Centennial Conference regular season.

In the Mules' most successful season in school history, Chili established herself as the team's leading scorer. Averaging 16.0 points per game, along with almost 4 assists, Chili became an integral part of the Mules' game-to-game offensive production.

Also excelling as a point scorer was senior Lauren Boyle. As the team's 2nd leading scorer with 14 points per game, Boyle made it difficult for opposing coaches to decide who to put their best defender on: the fiery freshman Chili or the sweltering senior Boyle.

Along with being named Rookie of the Year in the region, Chili received honors by being named to the All-Mid-Atlantic Region third team.

The Lady Mules' freshman phenom Alexandra Chili has been rewarded for her incredible first collegiate season.



Freshman Alexandra Chili puts on an offensive show for the Mules on her way to Rookie of the Year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## IM Soccer heats up



**Katz'  
Korner**

By Matt Katz

WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

With fan favorite IM softball right around the corner, IM Soccer is heading towards the home stretch. With 16 total teams, plus a separate girls game, IM soccer is off and running better than any year previous. The league is split into division, the West and the East. In the West, three teams remain undefeated through five games. Defending champion DTD, led by the ferocious defense of juniors Dave Emerson and Justin Mayfield, has proven they have a chance to defend their title. Expecto Petronum, led by the outstanding midfield play of juniors Diego Gomez and Glen Solomon, has also demonstrated they are contenders. But the favorite right now has to be Team Josh. With several former varsity soccer players, Team Josh has virtually blown out every team it has faced so far this season. With three undefeated teams, all scheduled to play each other soon, the next week promises to be action packed in the Wild Wild West.

In the East division, two teams have emerged as the front-runner. The Golf team, who last year went undefeated in the regular season but choked in the playoffs, has started this season undefeated as well. With senior Geoff Keleman running the show, and the always solid junior Biff Slocum in net, the Golf team has to be the

favorite in the East. The most surprising team, at least to the veterans of IM Soccer, is the Backdoor Slam squad. All freshmen, this scrappy and skilled team came out of nowhere to win its first 4 games and sit atop the standings.

With 3 more weeks left in the season, the tight races in each division should provide good experience for teams come playoff time. The top four seeds in each division make the playoffs. And as history has shown, when it comes to IM Soccer, what happened in the regular season stays in the regular season. The playoffs are a whole new animal.

Support Your



Mule Sports Teams

# Alex Lotorto killed in unfortunate accident

By Jack D. Ripper  
WEEKLY DOUCHEBAG

Senior Alex Lotorto was killed on Sat., Mar. 28 during an accidental airstrike during an Air Force training exercise at Edwards Air

Force Base in California. Lotorto was protesting the use of cluster bombs when he wandered into a training exercise in attempt to disrupt it. He is survived by his parents and fellow members of Students for a Democratic Society.

Lotorto was on the second day of a three-day, "Bust the Clust," anti-cluster bomb campaign. His sought out to disrupt three tests of a new type of cluster bomb developed for the military. He planned to ride his bike from Muhlenberg College to Fort Bragg, NC then to Edwards Air Force Base and finally back to Andrews Air Force Base near Washington D.C.

On Fri., Mar. 27, he successfully disrupted a training exercise at Fort Bragg, NC. Two Air Force A-10 Warthog anti-tank aircraft were on a bombing run when Lotorto climbed into a tank, which was serving as the target vehicle. He used the tank's radio to contact the military observers on the ground, to alert them of his presence, and that they should call off the strike. The planes were successfully diverted, and the bombs failed to reach their intended target. Unfortunately, the bombs were "accidentally" dropped on Lotorto's bicycle, completely destroying it.

Despite the loss of his bike, Lotorto hailed his act as a success. "I would trade my Trek for a cluster bomb any day!" said Lotorto. Military Police detained him for two hours as they questioned and lectured him on the dangers of his protesting methods. Lotorto laughed in the faces of the police officers, calling them "Pigs." After he was released, and seeing that his bike was destroyed, Lotorto stole the tank he commandeered and drove it all the way to California.

He intended to use the tank to get him all the way to California, but his plans changed while he was in Colorado. While driving through Aspen, Lotorto encountered Lance Armstrong, who was training for the Tour de France. Armstrong was captivated by the sight of a tank rolling through streets and destroying everything in its way. He stopped Lotorto and invited him to get some Chai Tea at a local Starbucks.

While they were in Starbucks, Armstrong broached the subject of either buying or trading for the M1-A1 Abrams tank that Lotorto was driving. As a result of a recent injury he received while training, Armstrong had been looking for a way to avoid colliding with other riders. He saw the tank as a perfect solution to his dilemma, and after a lengthy negotiation, Armstrong came away with the tank in exchange for his bike and two free LiveStrong bracelets.

Lotorto peddled throughout the night to get to Edwards AFB in time for a 10:30 A.M. cluster-bomb test. He arrived at the dry lakebed, which makes up Edwards AFB around 10:00 A.M., in plenty of time to disrupt the test. He scouted out the terrain and plotted his plan to disrupt the test. His



The late Alex Lotorto in all his protesting glory, just weeks before the tragedy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALEX LOTORTO ANARCHY PROJECT

plan was similar to the Fort Bragg plan; he was supposed to climb a fence and sit in the target vehicle and use the radio to contact the military observers.

At around 10:15 he jumped a small fence and made his way to the Bradley Armored Personnel Carrier, serving as the target vehicle. Only five minutes before the two F-15s roared overhead and dropped the prototype bombs, Lotorto entered the APC. Unfortunately, Lotorto forgot to use the radio to contact the observers to tell them to call off the attack. Nobody knew he was in the Queefest. The attack proceeded as planned.

Two cluster bombs landed on the tank, killing him instantly. For the military advisers, the attack appeared to be a success. Gen. Buck Turgidson, who was in charge of the test, hailed it as "a giant step towards keeping our soldiers and citizens safe." It took about five hours for the accident to become realized by the military. It was only when they found his bike in a restricted area did base security become suspicious of something being wrong. They sent a medical crew, led by Col. 'Bat' Guano, to inspect the APC, whereupon they found the charred, and nearly unidentifiable, remains of a young male with a LiveStrong bracelet on each wrist.

Seeing that they found Lance Armstrong's personal bicycle and that a male wearing LiveStrong bracelets was found dead, base security assumed that they had killed the seven-time winner of the Tour de France. It wasn't until Armstrong refuted the reports of his death that the true identity of the deceased became known.

It was a sad and somber day when the news of Lotorto's untimely death reached the College. President Randy Helm seemed to be the most vocal in praise for Mr. Lotorto's character and actions. President Helm, a confidant of Lotorto's, said, "Alex was dear friend of mine. I enjoyed going to ball-games and movies with him. When we would meet in a business setting, he always displayed the utmost professionalism and courtesy when others voiced their opinions. He will be sorely missed by the Muhlenberg Community."

## Disclaimer:

Welcome to our April Fool's issue! None of the articles or stories in this issue are real. All information is completely fictitious. The ads, however, are all entirely real. Take them seriously, and enjoy the rest.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

The Swedish Chef  
Editor-in-Chief

Pepe the King Prawn  
Executive Editor

Dr. Strangeport  
Managing Editor

## Sucks to be us

Stressed about finding a job after graduation? Well, time to stop madly filling out those applications, because who says you need a legitimate job or income to be happy?

Think of all you can do with the extra time on your hands. Write the next great American novel, perhaps? Learn a second language? Or what the heck, a third or fourth? You'll have enough time when you're lying on your parents' couch, which doubles as your bed seeing as they turned your room into a home gym.

Too proud to live at home? Want to save a shred of your dignity? Well, we hear that cardboard box décor is all the rage, all you need is some markers and some construction paper. Can't afford that? Display the This Side Up and you're all set. Who needs luxuries like running water or the loving embrace of family?

Or, if you really need to make some extra dough, consider prostitution. Thigh-high boots and fishnets cost next to nothing, and they flatter both sexes. Territory is everything, so make certain no one sets a four-and-a-half inch heeled foot on your corner. Sold? Just try and keep it on the down low, word on the street is that it's illegal or something like that.

As editors of The Weekly, we are all set. This job just pays so darn well. But after we graduate, we will be broke just like the rest of you. As English majors, though, we are well prepared. We have always known we would make little to no money, but now we definitely know it will be the latter. Thankfully we are prepared to starve for our art. Too bad for all you numbers people...what will you starve for? The Pythagorean Theorem will get you nowhere. Knowing the definition of queefest however? Priceless. Enjoy scrimping by, numbers people, as you calculate your slow bank account demise. We will be too absorbed in our writing and language-learning to even notice our lack of funds.

So thank you, Muhlenberg, for preparing us so well. Our skills may not lead to a steady job, but we know better than most that money does not equal happiness.

## Hug a tree - save the world

By Al Gore Jr.

TREE HUGGER EXTRAORDINAIRE

As I was smoking some grass with my tree hugging posse last week, we suddenly became enraged just thinking about the over-privileged Muhlenberg students and their complete disregard for the environment. What a queefest! Just because we are economically endowed spoiled brats does not mean we should have access to amenities some of you claim you "deserve" because you "pay for them." For example, we are very lucky to have an abundance of clean, running water on our campus. However, this does not mean we are each entitled to a clean shower whenever we feel like it. The socially responsible thing to do (to help all those kids in Africa) is to engage in group showers...five minutes...max...twice a week. Roomie shower time is an excellent bonding activity. Enjoy some great social interaction while saving the environment, what could be better? Speaking of bathrooms, I must declare that I have been appalled by the overabundance of toilet flushing our campus enjoys partaking in. Haven't you folks every heard of "if it's yellow let it mellow?" Remember people: we are saving children in Africa!

I have a bone to pick with Campus Safety as well. They think they can drive around in their SUVs and patrol cars looking really cool when an emergency breaks out. Do you know how many chemicals are released into the air as you rush to break up that party with a few underagers? Enough to kill the campus's entire supply of pine trees! Here is an environmentally sound suggestion for you, campus po: ride a horse. What a worthwhile and environmentally friendly investment for our campus community. That townie eyeing you up, ready to make his move, will have nothing on a campus safety officer riding up to save you on his trusty steed. And as if this proposition couldn't get any better, horses offer another fine benefit as well. Their droppings, filled with nutrients and energy, can be used to fuel energy needs on cam-

SEE ENERGY  
PAGE 3

SEE ENERGY  
PAGE 3

## The Pope knows sex

By Anita Hand  
ABSTINENCE SPECIALIST

Recently, Pope (monogamous) sex, and it should be for procreation only. If unmarried people have sex and ingeniously sleep around, it is a sin. And condoms only-

remarked that "condoms are not the answer to the AIDS epidemic in Africa and can make the problem worse," as he began a weeklong trip to Africa, where about twenty two million people are living with HIV and AIDS. Eighty one year old Benedict also said the Roman Catholic Church is at the forefront of the battle against AIDS. "You can't resolve it with the distribution of condoms," the Pope told reporters. The pope said a responsible and moral attitude towards sex would help fight the disease.

The Pope went to Africa to draw international attention to Africa's problems of famine, poverty and armed conflict (all caused by condom usage). "A Christian can never remain silent in the face of violence, poverty, hunger, corruption or abuse of power. The saving message of the Gospel needs to be proclaimed loud and clear so that the light of Christ can shine into the darkness of people's lives," Benedict said.

I have to say that I agree with Pope Benedict, only husbands and wives should be having

*Only husbands and wives should be having sex and it should be for procreation only. If unmarried people have sex, it is a sin.*

encourage people to have promiscuous sex. Often times, condoms break anyway, spreading HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases like chlamydia and queefest. Condoms should only be used to make balloon animals like dogs, snakes, and giraffes for young children. The condom companies like Trojan and Durex should find something more useful to do with that rubber, like making snow tires. They should instead be giving out condoms to the animals in Africa, like the dangerous hyenas, which are over populated. Unmarried people should abstain from sex, and should spend their free time at church. Bristol Palin said, "I wish I had listened to my mother, governor Sarah Palin (who is best friends forever with the Pope), and abstained from sex until I was in a committed, legal relationship with Levi Johnston, and had my beautiful fetus, Tripp."

The last Pope, John Paul II, also said that sex-

ual abstinence - not condoms - was the best way to prevent the spread of the disease. The Catholic Church rejects the use of condoms as part of its overall teaching against artificial contraception. Senior Vatican officials have advocated fidelity in marriage and abstinence from premarital sex as key weapons in the fight against AIDS. The late Cardinal Alfonso Lopez correctly said that condoms may help spread AIDS through a false sense of security, claiming they weren't effective in blocking transmission of the virus.

These same policies advocated by the Pope should be adopted by Muhlenberg students. Since very few of us are married, there should be no sex going on throughout the campus. Those

late night noises you hear are probably just from a rousing game of Ninetendo 64. I will be submitting an amendment to the bylaws committee to outlaw sex on Muhlenberg's campus, protect our bodies and save lives from AIDS. Condoms are too readily available on campus. They should no longer be available for free in the Health

Center. I will be holding a condom burning party in the Freshman quad on Friday night. I hope to see you there.

*The condom companies should find something more useful to do with that rubber, like making snow tires.*



# A Real American Op-Ed



## World News & Politics

Max Julius  
WEEKLY COLUMNIST

I am so tired of opening up this newspaper and reading all these latte-drinking, Hollywood loving, hybrid-car driving, CNN watching, hippie liberal articles. This newspaper needs to turn up the Toby Keith and start bleeding some red, white and blue.

The last time I checked these colors don't run and America has been kicking ass and taking names since 1776, so what is

everybody complaining about?

You want to know what is causing all these housing foreclosures and all our great American car companies to lose all their money?

Two words: Barack Obama.

This guy and all his big, properly pronounced words has been President for three months and look at all the problems we have already.

We don't need any of these Ivy-school educated people trying to run this country. We need some real, average Americans back in the White House calling the shots, like Sarah Palin or Joe the Plumber.

The College hosted Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, and Joe Biden in the past two years, but where

*You want to know what is causing all these housing foreclosures and all our great companies to lose money? Obama.*

is our visit from Ann Coulter and Rush Limbaugh?

When are we going to fly Sarah Palin down to teach us about how to tank a Presidential campaign?

Where is our visit from Bill O'Reilly? I was reading O'Reilly's book the other day and that man is a true American hero.

*We need some real, average Americans back in the White House calling the shots, like Joe the Plumber.*

He used to just be a school teacher and yet now he insults millions of people every night on the greatest channel in this country: FOX News.

Muhlenberg needs to turn off the Comedy Central and stop watching the queefest known as Jon Stewart and Steven Colbert. Flip over and watch some Sean Hannity

and you will learn a thing or two about what is really causing America's problems. Every morning, I sip my coffee and watch another riveting episode of Fox & Friends. There is no better news source than

two blondes in short skirts discussing dogs on surf boards (and sometimes politics).

Another thing that I am sick of hearing about is this global warming nonsense. Last time I checked, I was freezing last week. When I don't need to wear my winter coat and snow hat in January, then you can talk to me about the globe getting warmer.

Beyond that, what's the problem

with a warmer globe? I wouldn't have to spend all this money to go down to Mexico for vacation, and be forced to pay some El Pesos to choke down Coronas and Burritos, when I could be in America drinking Budweiser and eating meat and potatoes.

Another proposition is the new "rent a gun" program, a staple in other colleges. Students should be allowed to carry their own concealed weapons throughout campus, or borrow one from a rental service. You never know when one of those squirrels will get out of control and you will be forced to protect yourself from its wrath.

Also, all Muhlenberg students should be required to serve in the U.S. military in Iraq.

Put away the New York Times, Muhlenberg, and start handing out free copies of The Wall Street Journal. Stop wasting my time with "Trayless Tuesdays" and worrying about the environment, and stop making me read all this blue-state nonsense in my school paper. A conservative revolution is upon us, and I am ready to lead us in the "right" direction.

## ENERGY FROM PAGE 2

pus, such as fry cookers and other GQ amenities (which should only be using organic products from now on). Restrictions are not only placed on campus safety. Students are expected to make sacrifices also. For those students who do not give in to the new mandate to bike to campus all the way from their homes in New Jersey, fuel tanks will be replenished from the grease from the fry cookers, similar to McDonald's energy saving initiatives to power their vehicles.

Sadly, horse droppings will not be enough to power the entire Seegers Union. Therefore, the library will begin collecting donations of student feces to turn into powerful fuel for use around the campus. Leftover feces will be used to create fertilizer to grow the new organic vegetables Muhlenberg students will be munching on every night. Where will we grow these, you ask? The football field of course. What need is there for a football field for a team that can't win the last game of their season? And if this can't get any better, just wait. Half of all home grown vegetables will be sent to Africa to feed the starving children. Wow. It feels good to save the world.

Finally, we must all adjust our lifestyles for the sake of the environment. During the day, natural light from our bright and sunny campus will light every room we may occupy, eliminating the need for lights to be used. On those rare cloudy and rainy days, everyone's optimistic and glowing attitude will provide all the power we need to fuel our energy needs. In addition, dorms should have "lights (and all other electricity) out" hours between 7-11 P.M. every night. There is no need for lights, computers, televisions or any of this other energy wasting nonsense, especially during these hours. Why should you be allowed to use

your desk lamp when there are millions without electricity throughout the world? Just because you can use your lamp, doesn't mean you should or that you even deserve to use something you have the ability to pay for and utilize that makes your life easier. So sit in the dark and silence, bond with yourself or a roommate or two, and live with the peace of knowing that YOU are saving the environment.

*The library will begin collecting donations of student feces to turn into powerful fuel for use around the campus.*

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# Much needed changes for Trexler

By Holden MaCrotch

**LIBRARY REFORMING CLUB PRESIDENT**

As a frequenter of the library I would like to discuss

the policies that should be implemented for such dedicated patrons as myself.

First, I think that all study carrels should be available for rent, and plaques should be prominently displayed when said carrel is occupied.

As for me, I will be renting the carrel on B Level by the windows overlooking the CA and the slightly-top-sided third tree to the left until the end of time.

There should be the option of renting in yearly increments, with early renting if you are a pre-med student. Renting levels should be designated as the following: bronze for one year, silver for two, gold for three and diamond-encrusted for the lifers like me.

Also, I think that the study carrels should have accessory options, like seat warmers or personal air conditions because Lord knows what the temperature will be in there on any given day.

Small neck pillows would be nice, come to think of it, and waiters would really be great for those who are too immersed in their books to get up and grab food.

Who wouldn't want their Kit-Kat presented on a silver platter?

Of course, my ideas for the library extend beyond

my own personal comfort. I have ideas to better the whole of the library and make it a more enjoyable place for students and townies alike.

First of all, we should totally nix the reading room (I mean, it's a library, the whole building is for reading - designating one room seems a bit ridiculous).

We should replace this room with a student lounge for study breaks - complete with pool tables, a trampoline and other mind-stimulating activities. Even the name of the room, Queefest, will evoke merriment.

Speaking of stimulation, I feel that all these fluffy majors - dance, theater, music - anything besides hard core science to be honest, should have limited access to the library.

What in the world do they need books for anyway? Just dance around in a circle, I'm sure you'll come up with the same result.

To keep the library as pre-med happy as possible (for the real students) I think all cell phones, ipods, and other obnoxious electronics should be checked at the door, only to be returned upon leaving.

If annoying ringtones accompany the device, I believe a fine should be charged as well.

I mean, really, who wants to listen to a chorus of "If U Seek Amy" while pouring over advanced molecular mutation?

In addition, we know the obsession with porn will never die, so why try and stop it? Let them look I say, but in one designated area only - to keep distractions at a minimum of course.

The best places? C Level: privacy, and the rare books room - no one even knows where that is anyway.

And for those who want to do more than look (and we know you're out there dying to defile the stacks) you should have to reserve times in those so-called group study rooms on C Level. They even come equipped with chalkboards, perfect places to diagram those new positions you want to try. "I think the study rooms are perfect for experimenting!" said one female student, who wanted to remain anonymous. "The windows provide a sense of exhibitionism also - it's like a two for one deal!"

I say live and let live, in the library and out, and if you insist on engaging in such activities here, let's make it convenient for those, like myself, who cannot stop to observe the world around her long enough to even notice the opposite sex. I hope the library takes my policies into consideration, and if they have any questions, I will be on B Level.

And unless you have an actual proposal for me, with guidelines and references, leave me alone; I have no time for lesser motrals like you.

**Silence the liberal voices!!!**

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**WRITE FOR OP/ED**

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# Tragedy on the West Side

By Ashley Olsen  
WEEKLY SLUT

In the early hours of the morning on Mon., Mar. 30 the fire alarm sounded in Prosser Hall. As students quickly evacuated the building, someone spotted a fire coming from the third floor and the fire department was promptly contacted.

After only five minutes of nervously waiting outside the building for the fire department to arrive, over 200 residents of Prosser watched, awestruck as the building suddenly and tragically exploded. The many residents are extremely upset by the tragedy because most lost all of their

personal belongings.

One of the RA's noticed a resident who seemed extremely shaken up by the incident, more so than most other residents. When the RA asked said resident what was wrong, the resident replied that he may be to blame for the explosion. The RA then asked him to kindly elaborate on his response. The resident explained, "Well I was participating in what may or may not be illegal activity and came down with a bad case of the munchies." He then proceeded to call his older brother for counsel on the best way to go about fixing his plight, since his brother is exceedingly more educated and experienced with this kind of activity. His brother suggested that he microwave

a hotdog left over from his meal of Garden Room to go from earlier that day. Due to his altered state of mind the suspect resident unintelligently wrapped the hot dog in aluminum foil and then put his aluminum foil-wrapped cure-for-the-munchies in the microwave. He soon started to notice sparks flying inside the microwave but he said, "I thought that they looked pretty; like harmless fireworks so I just sat there and watched all the pretty colors!" When the RA asked where the student lived he said, "third floor main."

After the fire depart-

ment inspection it was concluded that another fire may have also contributed to the disaster. It was found that the smaller fire was most likely caused by friction from excessive, repetitive rubbing of a bed post against the wall. It was also concluded that this source of fire probably originated from third floor Annex.

Whatever the cause may be, this is undoubtedly a horrible tragedy. But the one question that remains is, what will become of hundreds of displaced residents of the late Prosser Hall.

The frightened and confused residents of Prosser, with nowhere left to turn, looked to Aaron Bova, the Associate Director of Residential Services, as their last hope in restoring their beloved, serene living environment. Bova explained, "The College is going to respond to the disaster with plans for a new luxury dorm." He further revealed that plans for this new living space have been in the works for quite some time now. This solution is a reaction to the disaster but mostly an answer to the multiple letters received by the College citing a lack of appropriateness of the facilities when compared to the cost of the College. "I expect nothing less from a school where I pay \$45,000 to attend," said Suzy B. Rich '10. "I mean, come on, isn't it about time that we get our own personal tanning beds?"

This new dorm will, in fact, include a tanning salon, queefest, gym and spa in the basement. In addition, each room will come fully equipped with central air, and a television, refrigerator, microwave, and full bathroom. Since the price for this new building venture is one billion dollars, many other renovation and expansion projects throughout campus must be postponed. This includes the Hillel House and Seegers Union expansions and the Parents' Plaza renovations.



Prosser Hall at the start of explosion. When the smoke was cleared a beautiful rainbow was seen majestically arched overhead.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEEKLY BITCHETTE

## New Senior Week events

By Slacker Sally  
WEEKLY TRASH LADY

In light of today's economic climate, the Senior Week Committee decided to make some changes to the usual senior week events. Senior week, which takes place during the days between the end of finals and graduation, is typically comprised of recreational and educational events geared toward seniors in preparation for graduation, such as lectures, dinners, and other fun surprises for seniors.

According to Julie Ambrose, Director of the Senior Year Experience, "The general consensus seems to be that students do not feel prepared to go out into the real world. Yes, Muhlenberg prepares students to get into the working world in theory, but in actuality, students are not getting the jobs that they anticipate out of college." Instead, she says students at the College who were expecting to become stock brokers and CEO's are finding that they must drastically change their career plans.

In fact, Ally Queefest '09 stated, "I originally planned to work in publishing after graduation, but now I'm being realistic. The most useful class I had at Muhlenberg actually wasn't a class at all, but my work study job. I had to run errands, make copies, and get coffee for professors in the English department. And since, in less than fifty days, I'll be working at Dunkin Donuts full-time, I do feel somewhat prepared to venture into the world of fast-food."

However, not all students are as fortunate as Queefest is to have gotten that real-world experience. "Most students come out of Muhlenberg expecting to become successful right off the bat, and are unwilling to accept any job that comes their way," says Cailin Pachter, Director of The Career Center. "When students come to see me, I try to remind them that, as of now, the closest they'll get to working in a big office building will be in the

mailroom."

When asked how students will be able to afford to pay back all the loans and debt they have incurred throughout their four years at the College, faculty and staff refused to comment. However, Queefest admitted that she did not expect to live long enough to get to that point. "Dunkin Donuts doesn't provide benefits and I can't afford health insurance. Besides, I'll probably eat so many donuts that I'll die of a heart attack by 30, so I won't have to pay back my loans. That's the plan, anyway."

In an effort to help students, the new senior week events will allow them to gain the practical skills they need to get out into the real world. These events include the Last Lecture - which is usually given by a faculty member - being given by Johnny P., local McDonalds fry-cook; as well as senior ball, which has now been renamed faculty ball, in which faculty and staff will be donning their formal attire and taking advantage of the open bar as students wait tables and tend bar. Though there is, as of yet, no official word on the Senior Surprise, rumors have been circulating of students being placed on "pooper scooper duty" at the Allentown Zoo.

In response to questions of what the College plans to change in order to prepare future students for the real world, the administration has commented that there is talk to make some drastic alterations to the current curriculum, such as replacing the literature requirement with a cleaning class. Other suggestions for new courses include taxi driving, mail-sorting, and garbage collecting.

"The College has an obligation to provide for its students, whether it is academically or otherwise," said Dean of Academic Life, Carol Shiner Wilson. "We are merely changing with the times."

*"...rumors have been circulating of students being placed on 'pooper scooper duty' at the Allentown Zoo."*






## A last look at Lotorto



Pictured above is the tank that Alex Lotorto was killed in. To the right, he is seen in happier times, after acquiring the bicycle of the famous Lance Armstrong. Photos courtesy of the U.S. Military, French Cycling Association, and the Weekly Bitchette.



## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
Few Asteroid Showers	Apocalypse	Very Sunny
High: 50 Low: 26	High: 666 Low: -12	High: 75 Low: 75

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# Tuesdays aren't alone anymore!

By Mary-Kate Olsen  
WEEKLY BITCHETTE

At around 4:30 p.m. on Tues., Mar. 31, members of EnAct were seen dancing in the streets. A parade of green t-shirts frolicked alongside a large white unmarked van that slowly made its way off campus. Unsuspecting onlookers, students and teachers alike, speculated regarding the contents of the van, starting a rumor that our campus electricity was being removed and replaced by solar panels. Alas, the rumor was false, and the contents of the van proved much more valuable. The EnActers have taken away our trays, and this time, we don't have the hope of a tray-filled Wednesday to save us.

Yes, we've all learned the "Trayless Tuesday" mantra over the course of this academic year. And yes, the environmentalists in the green t-shirts have a point. But ask any football player how they feel about making three extra trips in the Garden Room for their four necessary glasses of soda, water, cranberry juice, and two-percent milk, and you'll get a resounding groan.

What's a hungry 'Berg student to do without a tray? If you want salad, a sandwich, and some-

thing made fresh from the Action Station, you're at a loss. And that's not even considering the beverages! Many students have voiced their opinions about this weekly removal of trays in the past, but as those still-wet plastic wonders were loaded into a van on Tues, many hungry students lost their cool.

*"Sobs, moans, and growling stomachs overwhelmed the area, but one student's loud cry overcame it all:*

*"Why is this happen-*

A queefest of students formed a rambunctious crowd to get one last look at their beloved trays as the van was being loaded. They were held back at a distance some 50 feet away from the van by Campus Safety, but the ruckus only caused the befuddled crowd to grow.

"I can't see anything," groaned one fraternity pledge as he stumbled his way through the crowd. His head soon disappeared amidst the flailing arms of his fellow students.

"Why can't I touch it?!" an MDA member screamed. She proceeded to attempt to leap over the crowd to get to the trays. She was caught by her hair mid-air and thrown back into the sea of angry students, many of whom had started to drool.

One freshman broke into hysterics: "Ok now, now I, I feel funny," the poor young man squeaked between labored breaths just as a near-

by senior slowly stood up from his crouched fetal position on the ground and let out a long, obtrusive, deafening scream.

"I have two fingers!" one deliriously hungry sophomore vented to an on-looking garden room staff member, shaking his small and incapable hands.

After the environmentally-friendly van was filled with oil from the GQ fryer and it began to pull away, all hell broke loose in the Seeger's parking lot. Campus safety was finally overcome, and students bolted after the van. Some unlucky freshmen, and a few seniors, all under 5'4", were trampled in the ensuing stampede. Others simply gave up hope and let themselves fall to the ground in agony. Sobs, moans, and growling stomachs overwhelmed the area, but one student's loud cry overcame it all: "Why is this happening to me?"

The stampede of students was stopped by the entire Allentown police force, who may or may not have been called in by Campus Safety as back up. The van escaped freely with nothing but a few skipping students in green t-shirts in its wake.

This disaster has left many questions, most of which cannot be answered. For the moment, however, there is one question that dominates the minds of the limping, hospitalized, and hungry student body: Is this gonna be forever?

## Mel Gibson comes to campus

By Sean DaPole  
WEEKLY PUSHOVER

Memorial Hall.

While Gibson was scheduled to perform a theatrical contemporary rendition of his 1979 post-apocalyptic "Mad Max," his performance was far from the expected.

After a late arrival to his dressing room due to his peculiar fascination with the stench of the wrestling room, Gibson got into his strange custom. Immediately after the last buckle was buckled and the leather strap strapped on his "end of the world" style S&M gear, Gibson left the room and headed for the stage.

The show started with the flabby 43-year-old 'actor' standing in the center of the stage. He has his back to the audience showing his naked, cellulite-covered derriere and when the dramatic soundtrack starts, the naked Max turns and reveals barely clothed fireman.

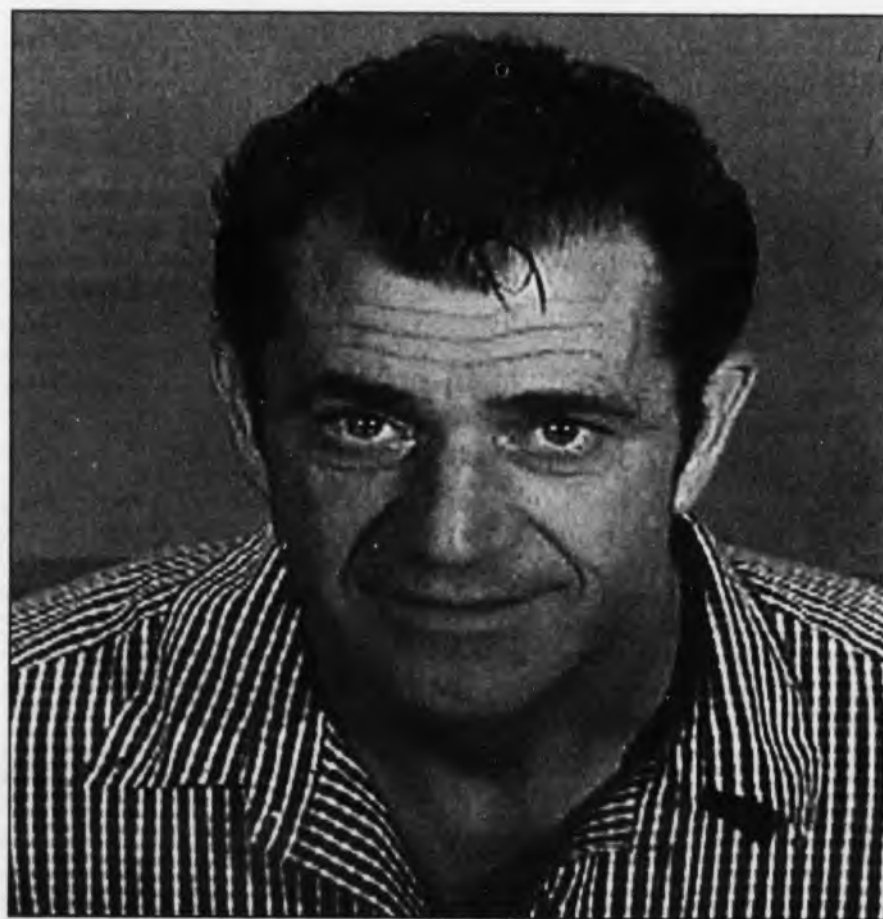
His 'young' pecker, clad in a leather sleeve, was connected by a metal chain link rope around the weirdo's neck. With the tip of his penis bare and visible to all onlookers, Gibson began running up and down the edge of the stage urination on the members of the audience seated in the first five rows.

Besides the obvious disgust of those sprayed with Gibson's urea, there were murmurs from the crowd regarding how they were impressed with the psycho's ability to pee long distances.

When the waters works portion of the show commenced, the show only got worse. Gibson sat on the edge of the stage and began to explain to the crowd that he was going to perform a queefest for all the audience that had not left. Despite the physical inability to expunge air from the female sexual organ, he began to fart to the tone of the show's soundtrack. By the time the Mad Max had finished his flatulence themed performance, all of the audience had vacated the Mecca of Centennial Conference Basketball.

On the whole, the show was an embarrassment for the whack-job Gibson. One audience member (who reeked of urine) spoke of his experience by commenting, "the show sucked and so does that bastard Mel Gibson."

On Mon., Mar 10, Mel Gibson made an appearance and performed at the College's



Gibson's mug shot, which he distributed signed copies of during his visit to the College.



# Write for the Advocate!

## April Fools!

### Email

Advocate\_FAIL@muhlenberg.edu OR Weekly\_WINS@muhlenberg.edu

## Campus Safety Notes

Mar 23 - Sex Offense - Sophomore Matthew Howard was arrested by APD for prostitution on Gordon St. He was caught soliciting a male detective who was undercover. He has been expelled and is awaiting deportation to Canada, where he is wanted on three counts of illegally melting ice.

Mar 23 - Noise Complaint - Campus Safety called for noise violation, student found drunk in bed with speakers blasting. Student arrested and brought to hospital. He woke up in diaper at hospital with nurses laughing at him in the morning. To top it off he got his license taken away.

Mar 23 - Drug Offense - Sean Avery was arrested attempting to smuggle cocaine into the College. He had a dog ingest the substance and brought it to the school. APD became suspicious after seeing Avery sniffing the dog's rear end.

Mar 23 - Injured Student - Girl transported from Martin Luther third floor to hospital due to tampon applicator lodged in vagina.

Mar 23 - Legal Activity - Student found in Prosser smoking low quality vegetable matter. Student was referred to a better source.

Mar 23 - Lost Property - a student was found walking down academic row, completely clothing free. If found, please provide towel.

Mar 24 - Unauthorized Whore - A prostitute was found wondering the halls of Walz. After the confiscation of her earring, it was found that all of the dorm's residents had purchased services. Residents were educated on the art of masturbation

and referred to the internet.

Mar 24 - Sick Student - A non-student farted during queefest. She was escorted off campus and told that she needed to use the other hole.

Mar 24 - Theft - Sophomore Jonathan Benjamin was caught stealing Victor's Lament. An RA became suspicious after "Ben-Ben" attempted to reassemble the structure in his dorm room using a blowtorch. He was referred to the Dean's office.

Mar 24 - Breaking and Entering - Student entered RA's room on third floor ML via the ceiling. Was referred to Judicial.

Mar 25 - Sick Student - Student rushed to hospital due to overdose on colon cleaners. EMS vehicle needed to be re-upholstered.

Mar 25 - Found Property - Vibrator found in Garden Room cake.

Mar 25 - Injured Student - During health center free colonoscopies, student rushed to hospital due to erectile dysfunction.

Mar 25 - Institutional Vandalism - Someone vandalized President Helm's bush. The grounds crew assisted in restoring his bush to an immaculate happy trail.

Mar 25 - Indecent Exposure - Student from ML third floor was found streaking across the front lawn with President Helm's name tattooed to his left butt cheek and Helm's dog's name on his right.

Mar 26 - Institutional Vandalism - Student became enraged with Life Sports Center so he proceeded to drain the swimming pool

and fill it with 72.5 trout.

Mar 26 - Malicious Activity - Water fight erupted in Prosser Hall. RA's warned students of fine for hall sports. Students retaliated and broke RA's toothbrush.

Mar 26 - Sick Student - Resident of ML, third floor, rushed to hospital after being found passed out in the hallway. Doctor concluded that the cause was due to excessive inhalation of noxious unidentifiable fumes.

Mar 26 - Sex Offense - Sophomore Ryan Lintz was caught excessively masturbating in his room. An RA became suspicious when Lintz was seen disposing of an excessive number of tissues. He was referred to Matthew Howard.

Mar 26 - Injured Student - On the third floor of ML. Student was stuck in toilet for 16.342 hours. Campus Safety attempted to dislodge the poor boy by using KY Yours and Mine that was found in one of the showers. Attempt failed and Plant Ops was called in to remove toilet. Boy, while still in toilet, was rushed to the hospital where they finally removed him.

Mar 26 - Disorderly Conduct - Snuggles was seen stalking Jemily after he became insanely jealous that Jemily received a free T-shirt and he didn't. Snuggles proceeded to attack Jemily and steal the T-shirt. Snuggles is still at large and is considered armed and very dangerous. If seen, stay away and call the proper authorities.

Mar 26 - Injured Student - female student was hit by a car while crossing Chew St. Student only sustained

minor injuries and acquired a new boyfriend after discovering that the culprit was a young, hot Republican. Student did not press charges, but required him to buy her dinner after.

Mar 27 - Criminal/Malicious - Counseling Center mis-diagnosed student and Anita Kelly tried to defend the original diagnosis but her defense fell apart when she was found with illegal substances in her purse. Kelly then lost her job and the Counseling Center was temporarily closed until new director is hired.

Mar 27 - Found Property - Student lost school notebook. He wants to apologize for the drawings if it is found.

Mar 27 - Lost Property - Student from third floor ML lost their v-card after attending a party. Student has no recollection, want's partner who took it to call.

Mar 28 - Harassment - A student reported being harassed by classmate from third floor ML. After mediation, it was concluded that the victim was just a big baby.

Mar 28 - Unclassifiable - Sophomore Mitchell Cats has turned into stone after staring at himself in the mirror too long. His, now calcified, body is going to replace the stolen Victor's Lament. It will serve as a reminder of the dangers of vanity.

Mar 29 - Indecent Exposure - Student was stopped by campus safety after being found wandering campus in a red negligee and without shoes on. When asked about her inappropriate attire, she responded that she was not selling her services; her clothing had all

been destroyed in a fire that broke out after cooking chicken. Student was let go with an eye roll.

Mar 29 - Trespassing - Non-student found viewing pornography in library. When confronted by campus safety, he invited the officer to take a seat. A good time was had by both.

Mar 29 - Hit and Run - A student's toes were run over by a campus golf cart. After hearing the approaching cart, the student attempted to step aside but was not fast enough.

Mar 30 - Institutional vandalism - There has been a vandalism of Victor's Lament. Being covered in graffiti and toilet paper, it was determined that the large hunk of steel looked better this way.

Mar 30 - Disorderly Conduct - Campus Police stopped Uriah Therault for having shoes that were so bright that they blinded a number of students. He was stripped of his harmful footwear and was given Pilgrim boots instead. No further incident was reported.

Mar 30 - Moving Violation - Student became enraged after getting stuck behind slow walkers on the way back to third floor ML. After some initial pushing and shoving, the student resorted to downright trampling and was reported to Judicial.

Mar 30 - Alcohol Violation and Vandalism - Mice were found eating a student's football jersey and drinking a student's beer.

Mar 30 - Campus Safety will no longer be reporting any incidents involving anyone from, or associated with the third floor of ML.



# Life!

"Life's a beach and then you drown."

-Pops

## Muhlenberg Theater Department destroyed: After horrible national ratings, CA damaged

By D. Ickabob  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

It seemed as though things could not get any worse for the Muhlenberg College Theater Department. Last week, the Princeton Review put out its second edition of their annual college ratings. Princeton Review ranks colleges on their academic standing, faculty, student profiles, etc. The last edition put the Muhlenberg College Theater Department as #7 in the nation.

However, a shock ran through the College when they found out that Muhlenberg was re-ranked as the second worst, only better to the United States Army's West Point. West Point's rendition of *Guys and Dolls* was rated the worst performance by a college, mainly because men held all of the roles.

The Princeton Review was appalled by Muhlenberg's revival of *Queefest: The Musical*. The College contacted the Princeton Review to inquire about the horrible rating. The company responded in a

strange way, by just sending back issues of *The Muhlenberg Weekly* showing pictures of odd-shaped, alien-like actors.

In a letter, President Helm wrote, "It is a sad time for Muhlenberg. The College was nationally renowned for its amazing theatrical work, and now the College barely out-ranked West Point."

He later went on to say, "I am disappointed in everyone involved in the theater department, and my mind now turns to the College's still amazing science department." After the news broke, Campus Safety is reporting that a large burst erupted from a *Queefest* set piece, shaped like a part of the female anatomy, in the Trexler Pavilion of the Center of the Arts, along with Empie Theater, the homes of Muhlenberg's once well-renowned stage performances.

Luckily the walls are made of brick, and the only damage was to the windows, which blew out due to the sudden burst of air. Campus Safety and Allentown Police Department confirm that nobody

was hurt, except for the hearts of the once nationally-ranked actors and actresses.

The Student Council met yesterday to decide on whether or not to rebuild the CA, or build something else in its place. By a vote of 8-1 (there always has to be that *one* person), they decided not to rebuild it. Nominations are now being held on what to build in its place. Some ideas are a memorial for all of the dreams that were lost, a new dorm building, and another sports stadium.

There was one interesting idea to leave the rubble as it is. "It will look very Victor Lament-esque," one person said. "Students may walk around the rubble and forever ponder what the memorial symbolizes." The theater department was in an outrage and led a rally for the CA to be fixed. Alex Lotorto, master protester, headed the rally. The rallying group held up signs for everyone to see how much the CA meant to them. A popular sign was of a caricature of said body part with an 'X' through it. Too bad

nobody else cared. In a fit of rage, Lotorto wanted to grab items to throw. Lotorto ran for the prop room, but as he opened the door, scene pieces, props, and costumes that were knocked out of place during the explosion fell on top of Lotorto.

With what was later to be diagnosed as a broken right shoulder, he grabbed dildos left over from *Queefest: The Musical*, and started throwing them all over, while dressed in costume as Buck Naked, the main character from *Queefest*.

Allentown Police Department assured us that nobody will be charged and there will be no investigation because they are finally relieved that there will not be another drama on the Muhlenberg campus for a while, if ever at all.

Breaking news: The Student Council has voted to erect a statue of Alex Lotorto in full costume holding a dildo to dedicate his leadership in the rally.

The inscription on the statue will say, "I came, I saw *Queefest*, I didn't conquer."

## Erecting the bell tower at Muhlenberg

By Kenny 'Shboom-boom' Washington  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

We have all heard stories of sex in the library, the Underground, even the quad. Now, there is a new hotspot on campus where the reception is always good: the bell tower. Referred around campus as 'Operation Liberty Bell,' has given a new meaning to the label 'Nipple of Knowledge' given to the mammary-shaped tower. "What could be more exciting than to orgasm as bells bellow out of big speakers?" asked one thrilled junior. "I'm shaking just thinking about it!"

In order to get to the bottom of

this new craze, I obtained an exclusive interview the beginner of this new trend. The source, who prefers to stay anonymous for obvious reasons, prefers to be called Mr. C. "The idea came from the contest they were having where you could win a dinner on the bell tower," He said. "I thought: 'Dinner is a good date. But we all know where we want dinner to eventually lead - sex! So I stole a key to get into the tower and began charging 20 dollars an hour. The only problem was the average student only lasted two minutes and fourteen seconds. Needless to say, I had to raise the rate.'"

Many students have indulged so

far. In a survey conducted by *the Queefest*, 52 percent of Muhlenberg students have, or want to have sex in public on campus. Mr. C claims that (since Sept.) he has had over 500 customers.

"Clearly, business has been slow since the winter began. But, you would be surprised by how many people are still willing to go up and do the naughty in twenty-degree weather," he said. When asked about any concerns of being caught, he said: "I don't understand why anyone would be concerned with this new movement. I provide condoms free of charge. And, after the incident last Feb., we do not con-

done drinking before, during or after sex in the tower."

Campus Police has been particularly upset with this trend. In a statement they said: "We are working on stopping the problem, but tackling a sweaty, naked body is more difficult than you would think."

"I think they have a problem with it because they actually have to get out of their cars to go up the bell tower," said Mr. C jokingly. Another confidential source said, "I would gladly do it, but my bow tie would surely make me too easy to identify if I were able to outrun Campus Po."

### ANNOUNCEMENT:

Trays are back! Garden Room will continue its use of trays on all days due to a lawsuit claiming discrimination against Tuesdays.

Happy April Fools!



# High movie reviews

By Wayne Kerr  
WEEKLY DOOBIE SMOKER

Hello. My name is Wayne Kerr and last Friday was my birthday. Because my friends are good friends, they bought me a felony's worth of weed. Needless to say, my mouth watered when I saw what they had done for me. I have had a love affair with weed ever since the second grade, when I first emptied my bubble pipe and filled it with the good stuff. Now, I know you're going to judge me; but let's be honest, nothing makes a person happier than a candy bar and a g. It's going to be legal soon you know. Sorry. I got sidetracked. It happens a lot. Anyway, I was sitting there one day watching a movie, holding my vape and my Jamaican lamb's wool when I realized: I sit around watching movies a lot. I then came to the conclusion that I should write movie reviews while high. I must warn you, some of this may not make sense. To be true to the events, I am typing up what I wrote down verbatim.

## Friday:

9:00 AM: Take Inventory: 10 'Family Sized' bags of chips, 3 2-liters of coke,

9:05 AM: Get started.

9:15 AM - *Fantasia*: That T-Rex just dominated Stegosaurus! Wow, these animals are pretty... GHOSTS! GHOSTS! DEMONS! Help.

11:30 AM: Snack time.

11:35 AM - *How High*: Redman AND Method Man... Hilarious.

1:30 PM: Time to reload on the hippy grass.

1:45 PM - *Clerks*: Black and white? It works. Jay and Silent Bob... Hilarious.

3:20 PM: Getting tired.

3:30 PM: Friends come back from class. To tell you the truth, I want to stop. I really want to stop. They tell me to put on my corduroys, strap in and barricade me in my room.

3:40 PM - *Wizard of Oz*: Black and white again? Wait a minute... Wait a minute... AWESOME!

5:30 PM: Smoke.

5:40 PM - *Dazed and Confused*: This movie understands me... Come on, even Abraham Lincoln is high.

7:30: Smoke.

7:45: Snack. My stomach is a bottomless hole!

8:00 PM: My eyes seem to be glued shut. I am so tir-

## Saturday:

12:00 PM: I don't know what day it is. I woke up naked, with a Doritos bag on my head.

12:15 PM: Brought out my pipe Cindy... smoked... I don't think I will ever smoke again.

12:20 PM - *How High*: Redman, Method Man... Still hilarious.

2:00 PM: Smoke. Queefest.

2:11 PM: Friends come hang out.

2:30 PM: Realize my friends are in New Jersey for the day. I can't keep this up for much longer. Plus, I am running out of snacks.

2:35 PM - *The Wall*: I think I need to smoke more. This makes no sense.

4:50 PM: Can't smoke anymore. Time to eat it.

4:00 PM - *Across the Universe*: Pretty colors!

6:00 PM: Time for a snack break and a rest.

7:30 PM - *Super Troopers*: 'I don't want a large Farva! I want a goddamn liter of cola!'

9:30 PM - *How High*: This movie sucks. I think I'm coming down.

## Sunday:

I have decided to bow out and flush my stash. My experience with *How High* revealed the effects weed can have on taste in movies. Plus, I ran out of snacks.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

### WHAT'S YOUR REACTION TOWARD THE CA BEING DAMAGED?



"More room for labs!"  
-Dr. Shive



"My dreams were destroyed with the CA, I am deeply saddened."  
- Some aspiring actress who will now have no future life



"It was because of the unequal justice some people have shown towards others."  
- Alex Lotorto



"The C-what?"  
-A freshman who still doesn't understand the initials



"Now maybe we can turn it into another stadium and become Division I."  
-Football coach

## Recession Re-Releases



### Paul Blart: AIG Cop

Fri. 4:10, 7:20, 10:10  
Sat. 4:10, 7:20, 10:10  
Sun. 4:10, 7:20, 10:10

### Slumdog Trillionaire

Fri. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
Sat. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
Sun. 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

### Watchmen: The True Story of the FDIC

Fri. 5:00, 7:40, 10:00  
Sat. 5:00, 7:40, 10:00  
Sun. 5:00, 7:40, 10:00

### Confessions of a Stock Broker

Fri. 4:40, 7:10, 9:30  
Sat. 4:40, 7:10, 9:30  
Sun. 4:40, 7:10, 9:30

### Un-Knowing

Fri. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15  
Sat. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15  
Sun. 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

### Tyler Perry's Madoff Goes to Jail

Fri. 1:50, 7:50, 10:25  
Sat. 1:50, 7:50, 10:25  
Sun. 1:50, 7:50, 10:25

### Harold & Kumar Go to the Unemployment Office

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:20

## This Week On Campus

### Caw

Cancelled

### Queefest Part II

Queefier and better than ever

### The Panel on How Global Warming is Fake

Turn all your lights on and then come to this discussion on the truth about global warming. If the earth is warming, why is it so damn cold outside?

### Men and Mental Health

Showing concern for the other gender that somehow got lost. Why isn't there a men's awareness month or a men's appreciation day?

### NCAA Bracket Meeting

No, not men's basketball...women's water polo! Go UConn!

### Water for Waziristan

Buy bottles of water...all proceeds go to the poor nation of Waziristan

### Cupcakes for Canada

Canada always gets the short straw...so let's help them out

### Asparagus for AIG

Gross food for a gross company

## Sodexo's New Ice Cream Flavors

Squirrel sundaes - to get rid of those pests around campus

Easties beasties butterscotch - good fumigation, better taste

Mule mocha - I wonder why the brown color?

Caw crap - for the new musical

Plain white tongue - a flavor that nobody is going to buy

Sandellas squid - wrapped in their famous flat bread

Generals leftovers - ...and you thought GQ was bad

Maingate munchies - absorbs alcohol and a one-step hang-over cure

Lotorto lemon - it leaves a sour taste in your mouth...imported from Libya

## An Abbreviated Puzzle

We live in an abbreviated world. From texting to diseases to computer lingo, we no longer have the time to say the full name of anything anymore. Try and name the many Muhlenberg abbreviations. Have fun!

GQ, GR, CA, MILE, TP, NSB, ML, SU, LSC, AEP, DTD, PM, DZ, ACO, PSS, PKT, SPE, S/R, JJ, SS, APO, MPA, SAC, MAC, MCTV, BOOM, MDA, MTA, SIN, MUFI, CASE, SHARE, ENACT, MFA, GSA, RDC, RA, MCCC, FYS

Answers on next page.

## PLAIN WHITE T's SUNDAY, APRIL 19 7:00 pm Memorial Hall

On-Campus ticket sales extended to  
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Student tickets \$5. Allowed to buy  
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## Caw is Coming... although it might be out of focus

Caw is coming. Yeah, what's new...another sh\*\*ty show. It's a good thing that the pictures are well-worth looking at. Oh well..it looks like we screwed up the pictures again. Oops!

### Stuff from Caw

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GUY IN THE FIRST ROW



### It's an Abbreviated World...Answers

(Generals Quarters, Garden Room, Muhlenberg Independent Living Experience, Trexler Pavilion, New Science Building, Martin Luther, Seegers Union, Life Sports Center, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Delta Tau Delta, Phi Mu, Delta Zeta, Alpha Chi Omega, Phi Sigma Sigma, Phi Kappa Tau, Sigma Phi Epsilon, South/Robertson, Java Joe's, Shuttle Steve, Alpha Phi Omega, Muhlenberg Pre-Health Association, Sociology and Anthropology Club, Muhlenberg Activities Council, Muhlenberg College Television, Berg Organization of Music, Muhlenberg Dance Association, Muhlenberg Theater Association, Students in Newman, Mules for Israel, Clean and Sober Environment, Students Have a Real Effect, Environmental Action Team, Muhlenberg Film Association, Gay-Straight Alliance, Red Door Café, Residential Assistant, Muhlenberg College Campus Cleaners, First Year Seminar)

Instead of putting some mindless junk here, we will be completely honest...we've got nothing, s\*\*\*, f\*\*\*-o, bupkis. So much for your high expectations...you're in college, you should be smarter than that.

## Write for Life!

Our section *REALLY* can't get any worse!

By the way...theater articles and pictures need *NOT* apply!

Email [someonewhocares@F-off.com](mailto:someonewhocares@F-off.com)

# Mules turn the other cheek

By Kyle Okposo  
WEEKLY AWESOME

In a surprise move on Mon., Muhlenberg College Athletic Director, Sam Beidleman, announced that the College is going to change its team name from the Mules to the Jackasses. The announcement, which was aired on ESPN, was met with both praise and scorn by members of the Muhlenberg Community.

A Muhlenberg alum in favor of the change spoke to the Weekly under anonymity. The alum likes the idea purely from a business aspect. "With the name change, we can sell new uniforms in the 'Berg Bookshop. Just like 'third' jerseys in pro sports, our new uniform will have a sense of novelty that will attract new buyers. But unlike sports teams, our name change will affect more than just jerseys. I can't wait to buy a mug that says, 'Jackass Alum.'"

Freshman T.J. 'King' Kong is a vociferous dissenter of the name change. He argues that "Jackasses" is too long to fit on the front of uniforms. "Honestly, how are the makers of jerseys going to both fit 'Jackasses' on the jersey, and make it stylish? I just don't see how it's possible."

When asked why he felt the name change was warranted, Beidleman's eyes lit up. "The name 'Mule' doesn't elicit any emotion. I feel as though I'm not proud as I could be when I tell people that I'm the Athletic Director of the 'Mules'. But 'Jackasses'...now that's a name to be proud of! Repeat after me, 'I am a Jackass'. Now tell me you don't get a rush of emotion and pride saying the phrase. You can't deny that the name 'Jackass' is more powerful than 'Mule.'"

In response to negative reaction to the name change, Beidleman said, "How many people who are against this change play sports for Muhlenberg? No one! The people who don't want to be Jackasses are real jerks and deserve to be in a queefest! They can stay mules and drop out. We don't need bad energy in Scotty Wood Stadium." Then he addressed the dissenters directly, "Go home, stay mules. We don't need you!"

In addition to the name change, Muhlenberg College is planning to overhaul their mascot. The famous Mule is going to be replaced by a new mascot. The design has not been released yet and Beidleman is tight lipped about the new design. Despite the secrecy, the Weekly has learned that the

new mascot will be Sarah Palin. The school came to the conclusion that Palin would best exemplify the ideas that the name 'Jackass' stands for. In addition, Palin has been known to shoot other animals and the College would like her to represent aggressiveness.

One final change Director Beidleman is planning is an adjustment to the current sports logo. Currently, the logo features a giant red 'M' in front of a kicking mule. The new design will remain largely the same, except for a subtle addition. In another exclusive, the Weekly has obtained a copy of the new logo.



Our Mule has \$h!t the bed.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE MAN

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# Bob Knight hired: promises to save chair throwing for "Carlisle perverts"

By Ja'mie King  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

After the retirement of Dave Maderia, much of the Muhlenberg Basketball community has had low expectations for next season.

Well, on Wednesday, April 1st, that all changed with the hiring of Bob Knight. Knight has come out of coaching retirement to lead the Mules, leaving his post as the ridiculously tan ESPN college basketball analyst and resident short fuse.

With this bold and absolutely bizarre move, Muhlenberg Basketball has rocketed to the top of the D3HOOPS.com preseason polls.

In his first press conference, Coach Knight addressed the sudden increase in outsiders' expectations for his team. "I am not surprised," the Coach said. "These writers are always assuming up a queefest, just like those damn refs. Always assuming the foul and ruining the game."

A bit taken back, but not surprised, the press cored continued with questions. When asked what had drawn him to Muhlenberg, Coach Knight responding with shocking words.

"When looking at the Mules' schedule, I notice that two of the games we play are against a school named Dick-in-son. Can you believe those perverts? They are not even ashamed about what they are doing."

After hearing this answer, Athletic Director Sam Beidleman ended the press conference and offered to field any additional questions. Beidleman was then posed the question on how appropriate it is to have a coach with such a bad temper.

"Look, Coach Knight is a Hall of Fame coach and we will take that. As for his temper, all I can say is that he promised to save all of his chair throwing for those perverts from Carlisle."



Lefty: Coach Bob Knight hates those child touchers; Righty: The enemy.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BRAIN TRUST

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Komila '11, climbs rocks; Luke '10, sleeps til noon; Jessica '11, loves Disney World; Jon '10, likes sports

# Rumors finally get through cauliflowered ears

By Ivana Pupa  
WEEKLY FECALPHELIAC

Every week, wrestlers tug and pull at their tiny uniforms and hit the mats. They limber up, smack their heads, and listen to their iPods which we can only assume play manly, pump-up tunes. But the question remains, what are they really listening to? Is it some hard-core metal band, or are these wrestlers secretly Fanilows, listening to Barry before a big match.

Through the ages, wrestlers have deflected rumors suggesting that they are, in fact, homosexual. Another possibility is that they are simply in denial. But now it seems like they have taken off their headgear and lent an ear to the rumors, and are considering their own sexual identity.

"I don't know, maybe I am, I've never really thought about it," said an anonymous wrestler, who wishes his family not know about his indecision. "Maybe one more match will put me over the edge."

For every "take down," the wrestler on the bottom tries to either "reverse" or "escape," but does he want to? An escape maybe leads to more excitement, dare we say more "foreplay," but there is something in the struggle as well.

"Sometimes when I'm on bottom, I'm in heaven," said another anonymous

wrestler. "I think to myself, why would I want to escape?"

Wrestlers are now becoming increasingly comfortable with the topic of sexuality, as the rumors and gossip have finally crept into the wrestling room. Most claim they had no idea how the rumors started or who started them, but are glad they are, well, out.

Those who admit to hearing and believing the rumors attribute their legitimacy to the different wrestling positions. A lateral drop, bridge, high crotch, and double-leg take down are common terms in the wrestling world, and have certain connotations that cannot be ignored. All require a high level of flexibility as well, which is a key part of the sport. Believers also cite the positions tilt, spladle, and crucifix, queefest as unclear and possibly dirty moves.

Certain wrestlers have recently decided to hang up their little shoes for fear that the rumors could take over their lives. Some, though, have admitted that they are relieved they don't have to watch their weight anymore. For them, no more wrestling not only means no more gay rumors, but also no more running in sweats and starving for days on end.

So farewell and good luck to those leaving the great sport of wrestling. You've dropped your last lateral and rode your last crab, and we wish you luck.

## FINANCIAL AID



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## Nick Jones picks love over 100 million Euros

By Sky Rimmele  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

In a stunning turn of events, Nicholas Jones turned down a 100 million Euro contract from Italian soccer power FC Internazionale late Wednesday evening. Jones released a statement saying he was "leaving Europe to return home to America." Jones continued to say, "Playing for Inter is an opportunity that I am flattered to receive, but not seeing the love of my life Chelsey Waldron everyday is something that I can no longer go through. I miss her." Inter manager Jose Mourinho was quoted as saying, "What a Wayno!" after learning of Jones' decision.

Jones, a 21 yearold former Muhlenberg College soccer player, dropped out of the College this January to pursue a career in European professional soccer. After two grueling months working the streets of Florence as a street vendor selling ZJs to any Italian who could afford it, Jones was lucky enough to strike a deal to garner a tryout with Inter. Jones spent the next week practicing with the team, routinely outplaying some of the highest paid players in Europe such as Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Javier Zanetti. Finally, after his third and final attempt at passing the team's mandatory drug and STD testing programs, the club offered him the extraordinary 100 million Euro contract. Unfortunately for Inter, Jones declined the contract and is returning to the United States. Jones was seen Wednesday afternoon by Italian paparazzi trying to scalp tickets for a flight to Philadelphia outside Milan International Airport.

So why would any self-respecting human being endure two months of grueling personal sacrifice, just to turn down a lucrative contract to play for one of the most prestigious clubs in the world? The answer is simple: LOVE. Nick Jones and Chelsey Waldron met one passionate night in the Soccer House basement where Cupid was once again shooting his arrows.

Cupid was on fire that night, drilling Jones square in the heart. After playing a game of "Sink the Chalupa" with Waldron and signing to her the words to Chris Brown's hit "With You," the two instantly fell in love.

Since that fateful night, Jones has routinely displayed that he is the best boyfriend ever to grace the campus of Muhlenberg College. Mike Falk, the sports information director at Muhlenberg, has photographed Jones throughout the past year showcasing his love for Waldron. Instances include him being sighted outside of Benfer Hall armed with a bouquet of roses, Russel Stover Chocolates, and Blockbuster rentals of both *The Notebook* and *Maid in Manhattan*. Former head of Muhlenberg College Campus Safety Ken Lupole has written Jones up three separate occasions for setting off the fire alarm in Benfer 104 for excessive lighting of scented candles in the wee hours of the morning. TC Salon and Day Spa has reported record sales for their Couples Massage package, which the spa credited to excessive credit card payments coming from an American Express account charged to a Hingham, MA address. Nick Jones happened to have graduated from Hingham High School in June of 2006.

So where do both sides go from here? Inter will give their millions of Euros to other players to try and fulfill their goals of becoming champions in both Serie A and in the UEFA Champions League. Jones will eventually get back to the United States, hug Waldron, and once again be the happiest man on the planet. Jones plans to continue his soccer career for Muhlenberg in the fall. When asked about how he felt when hearing of Jones' story, Muhlenberg head coach Sean Topping said, "What a donkey! I'm glad Jonesy is coming back for the fall. We need his steady hand to keep stats and film games yeah? All right all right. Off you go!" Waldron could not be reached for comment.



Lefty: Nick Jones having a ball after scoring a goal; Righty: Nick's real love.

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VOLUME CXXVIII, ISSUE 20

Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009

# John Ramsay appointed Provost

By Kelly Frazee  
NEWS EDITOR

ship."

Ramsay said, "I like the strong sense of community and the spirit of the College. I was really taken by the people of Muhlenberg - faculty, staff, and students. I was struck by their thoughtfulness, their pride in the College, and their kindness and helpfulness during and after the search process." He also added that he, his wife Michele, and their youngest son Luke, are very excited to learn about the greater Allentown community.

As Provost of the College, Ramsay will be responsible for managing all fiscal and personnel aspects of the academic program, including overseeing all academic department heads. The Provost also administrates over the deans of academic life, international programs, the Wescoe School, the Office of the Registrar, the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding, the Martin Art Gallery, the Entrepreneurship Institute, the Center for Ethics and the RJ Fellows Program. Ramsay said in the midst of all this, before any big plans for change may take place it will first be important "for me to understand and to help steer change processes that are already underway. But most importantly, I need to meet people, study the way the College works, and learn more about the culture of Muhlenberg."

John Ramsay, Ph.D., is the new Provost of the College. Currently, Ramsay is the chair of the educational studies department of Carleton College in Northfield, MN, and is also the Hollis L. Caswell Professor. Previously, Ramsay served as the chair and director of the teacher education program at Dickinson College from 1984 to 1989. In addition, he held the position of Associate Dean at Carleton from 2004 to 2007. Ramsay obtained his education at Bucknell University, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree, and the State University of New York at Buffalo where he earned his Ph.D. in educational studies.

As Associate Dean, Ramsay was responsible for organizing Carleton's objective to recruit and retain a talented and diverse faculty, while also working on the renewal of major institutional grants. Ramsay officially takes over the position of Provost from Marjorie Hass on July 1, 2009. President Helm said that "John Ramsay brings experience, integrity and vision to this position...I have been tremendously impressed with his thoughtfulness, energy and intelligence and am confident that he will provide Muhlenberg with outstanding academic leader-



John Ramsay, Ph.D., officially begins his new position as Provost on July 1, 2009.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.MUHLENBERG.EDU

## New Student Government takes shape



The new Executive Board from left to right: Treasurer Philip Weisgold; Vice-President Sara Keller; President Jon Falk; Executive Secretary Sam Landman; Recording Secretary Maya Spitalnik.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW HOWARD

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Thur., Apr. 2, Jonathan Falk presided over his first Student Government meeting as President of Student Government. In a speech given during a private Student Government meeting earlier in the night, he thanked former President Sara Keller '10 and remarked on her many accomplishments. "I cannot think of any president in the history of our Student Government who has had to deal with such pressure from the start of their presidency, and you handled it with beauty and grace." Then Falk spoke about what he hopes the new Student Government will accomplish. "As a government, we have the unique opportunity to be the voice of hundreds and it is our duty to give them the representation they deserve." Falk finished his swiftly paced speech by quoting John F. Kennedy: "Effort is not enough without purpose and direction."

Thursday also marked the first meeting of the newly elected Student Government. The main order of business for Thursday's meeting was to elect a new Executive Board. The Executive Board of Student Government consists of the President of Student Government and four other elected officials. The remaining members of the "E-Board" consist of a Vice President, Executive Secretary, Recording Secretary and the Head of the Treasury Committee. All five are positioned in the front of the room, facing the rest of Student

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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

Matthew Howard  
Managing Editor

## Letter to the Editor

### Laugh it off

We are sorry to those we have offended with this year's April Fool's issue...not. April Fool's! We stand by this issue, and have been told by countless students and faculty that it was hilarious and well-written.

This has been a tradition with The Weekly long before we called ourselves the Executive Board, and we were proud to have upheld that tradition so well, with a cohesive issue that managed to avoid overtly offensive topics. Well...we thought so anyway until we received this letter to the editor that seemed so outraged.

We would just like to say that all participants who were going to die in this issue were fully aware of their imminent death and how it would happen. It was a joke.

The entire campus is aware of Mr. Lotorto's politics and we were merely having a little fun. The large disclaimer on the front page should have been evidence. We were not making him the "target of contempt or ridicule;" we were merely exaggerating the ideas that Alex Lotorto perpetuates about himself, which, by the way, is the basis of comedy.

Speaking to our journalistic integrity, this was not an issue meant for anyone but the immediate campus community. It was not sent out to family members or alumni, nor was it published online. It was a joke The Weekly shared with its fellow students and most were grateful for the 16 pages of entertainment and the shared laughs that followed. We are sorry if you found parallels to the tragedy that happened to Jacy Good, and we would like to say that that was never our intention. We still grieve for her and her family and would never disrespect such an event.

There's really nothing left to say but that our intentions were good, and that the majority of the campus can take a joke. We are, in fact, "good people," and take full responsibility for what we publish. We welcome the criticism and realize that all students are entitled to their own opinions. We just wish that the intent of the issue - to give students a lighthearted break from schoolwork - were taken into account before dismissing our standards of taste and decency.

Recent weeks marked another April Fools' Day, and, in the latest iteration of a dubious tradition, the staff of the Muhlenberg Weekly released their annual April Fools' issue. The fictitious articles contained in this edition are known for being lightheartedly off-color. This year's edition, however, exhibited a headline so outrageously inappropriate that to allow it to pass without the utmost condemnation would be unconscionable.

I am speaking, of course, of the headline that proclaimed, "Alex Lotorto killed in unfortunate accident." I first became aware of this masterpiece of bad taste when I saw it lying on a table in Seegers Union.

My immediate reaction was intense and visceral. For a few moments, I did not realize that what was in front of me was somebody's sick attempt at a joke and not a real headline. Every muscle in my body tensed. My pulse accelerated. My mind flashed back to real headlines I had read in the past, headlines informing me that students in my high school had been killed in accidents.

While the realization that the headline was not real came quickly, my anxiety was not so quickly dispelled. The untimely death of a student is a tragedy, not fodder for cheap laughs.

Such subject matter is shown to be particularly insensitive when one considers that it has been less than a year since the accident that placed Jacy Good in a coma and took her parents' lives. Those reading of my experience might assume that it was atypical. This is an assumption I might share had I not discussed the article with several friends who reported distress similar to my own upon encountering the headline.

As I read further in the article, my anxiety slowly turned to disgust. The Weekly is a student newspaper that informs students and alumni of campus news and provides a forum for student opinion. It is not a tabloid rag that mocks individual students for the entertainment of others.

No matter what your opinion of him, there is no question that Alex Lotorto's name has become synonymous with controversy on Muhlenberg's campus. Alex's politics and his methods have provoked strong

### April Fool's Joke Gone Too Far

SEE APRIL FOOL'S  
PAGE 3

## Ungrateful nimrods

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Over the years, the United States of America has been described as a terrorist, war mongering, too capitalistic, unfair, and many other colorful insults. This name calling game is far from the truth. Several weeks ago, a new insult arose from none other than the United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon. He so elegantly called the U.S. a deadbeat.

The Secretary General's remarks were incredibly insulting, to say the least. The one problem with his opinion of the U.S. is that the country he refers to as a deadbeat does more to better this world than the UN. A deadbeat is someone, or in this case, some organization, that coasts through life without doing much to contribute to society or make a meaningful difference. How on Earth could the United States fit this definition? America donates millions of dollars every year to worthy, human rights causes. America accepts political refugees and organizes and sends out tons of food and medical aid to a starving Africa and a devastated Southeast Asia. America gives funding to AIDS research and assists developing countries in food production technology. Once we tune out all of the bias presented by the inter-

national community, the U.S. is quite a generous country.

Another point the Secretary General should realize is the fact that the United States provides 22% of the UN budget. Almost one quarter of his budget is paid by one country. Maybe if we are such a deadbeat, we should yank that funding. If that happened the UN would fall apart (it's not such a nice building to begin with).

The UN depends on our money and our good nature, but calls America names. Here's a question for the Secretary General: where do you and your staff work? The answer is Manhattan, NY. Isn't that in the U.S.? So, he likes to trash America, but wants to use our land at the same time!

Now, let's take a close look at the UN's stunning track record. Rwanda, North Korea, Iran, and pirate hijackings are some examples of the extraordinary UN flops. Under UN observation, the conflict between the Hutus and the Tutsis was not settled. Instead, Rwanda got hundreds of thousands of dead civilians. North Korea has been a thorn in everyone's backside for quite some time. It is a totalitarian communist state that pays little attention to its population and it has relentlessly pursued a nuclear weapons pro-

gram. On April 5, 2009, North Korea conducted another missile launch and claimed it was peaceful. The UN stood up and tried to flex its muscles by unanimously condemning the launch. Wow, if I had a nickel every time a spineless statement like that worked, well, I wouldn't have any nickels. In response to the UN action, North Korea flat out rejected the condemnation and decided to withdraw from the Six Party Talks.

Last week, Iran's President toured a new uranium enrichment facility. Enriched uranium is typically used to make nuclear weapons. Iran has not stopped its pursuit of weapons research and continues to threaten Israel's right to survive.

The UN slaps them with some sanctions, nothing more than a slap on the wrist. Over the past few days, the news has been flooded by stories of the pirate situation off of Africa's eastern coast. Our fellow citizens and countless other sailors are in serious jeopardy. Unfortunately, our navy is tied up in the red tape of international law. Obviously this whole international organization thing is not working so well. We showed them our muscles when the Navy SEALs took three pirates out and rescued the captain of the Maersk-

SEE NIMRODS  
PAGE 3



# Our Right

By James Koury  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Since 1789, the United States of America has been guided by a unique and ground-breaking Constitution. The text of our Constitution represents the American spirit and values that were born out of the American Revolution. The Constitution lays the ground work for our government and the processes under which it operates. It also puts much emphasis on the rights given to American citizens. These individual rights are often argued as the core of the Constitution. Despite the sanctity of these American rights, one in particular has fallen under intense fire. The right to "keep and bear arms," granted by the Second Amendment, has been called into question by law makers, citizens, and the court system.

Over 200 years ago, the seed of Revolution was planted by the British monarchy. The disregard for individual rights that was obvious during King George III's reign influenced the desire of our Founders to protect those rights for future Americans. In order to preserve the liberal tradition of individual rights, the Founders spelled out ten inalienable rights in the Bill of Rights. These rights are afforded to

each individual citizen, including the right for Americans to own firearms.

Critics of the Second Amendment, particularly activist judges, have argued that the right given by the amendment does not apply to individual Americans. The mere thought that one of the amendments of the Bill of Rights does not protect individuals is outrageous. The guaranteed rights of freedom of religion, the press, expression, the right to a fair and speedy trial, the protection against warrantless searches and seizures, and the right to trial by a jury of peers all refer to rights of the citizen. Much of the controversy arises in response to the reference of "the people" in the 2nd Amendment. Critics say that the right to bear arms only applies to a militia or an armed group. Wake up! Every American is one of "the people." The text in the other amendments contains that very phrase.

Are these anti-gun advocates honestly proclaiming the right to bear arms is not an individual right? If we apply that logic to other rights, then the freedom of speech or to assemble is not a right afforded to each of us, so we better end all clubs and demonstrations. This just does not follow the intent of our Founding Fathers and the purpose

of the Bill of Rights.

The real issue is government regulation. We must understand that there have been attempts that go too far. On one end of the spectrum, a universal ban on guns would be clearly unconstitutional, but on the other hand, permitting citizens to buy grenade launchers and tanks would be totally irresponsible. The key to this debate is to find a happy medium. Under the protection given by the 2nd Amendment, Americans have a right to keep firearms, whether it is for protection, sport, or collection. It is a right that insulates ordinary citizens from a government that might overstep its boundaries. Despite this right, the government does have a responsibility to maintain law and order. Anti-gun rights advocates assume that the only way to prevent crime is to ban guns or to unnecessarily tighten the regulation laws. This is just not true.

Crime fighting has been used as an underhanded way to impose overbearing gun laws on the public. The guns do not cause crime, the criminals cause crime. The solution lies with reforming the criminal justice system. Taking guns out of the hands of law abiding citizens is wrong and actually just as dangerous as a murder on the run. What we can do is keep violent criminals

locked away for a longer period of time. The only way guns end up related to crime is when they end up in the hands of the criminals. The answer is to not let them out so soon! Keep these bad guys in the slammer for a longer time and maybe even permanently remove the mass murderers, torturers, rapists, and child predators (if you catch my drift, but that is an issue for another time). America needs to stitch up that bleeding heart for the law breakers. It seems as though the rights and well being of the gun toting criminals take priority over our right to bear arms.

The debate over gun control will surely continue. Unfortunately, our Founding Fathers are no longer around to tell it like it is, but their intentions are pretty obvious if you read the Bill of Rights. Our politicians and judges should end this game of using crime as a way to push gun regulations. We need to be realistic and ask ourselves who is to blame for our nation's crimes. The solution to ending crime is tougher punishment for those who abuse that right the Founding Fathers gave to you and all Americans, not opposing the intentions of them. The Second Amendment should not be demonized, but should be valued along side the rest of our Constitution.

## APRIL FOOL'S FROM PAGE 2

reactions, positive and negative, from students, professors, and administrators alike. It is the Weekly's prerogative to run editorials that are critical of Alex, and they have done so in the past. It is not their prerogative to attack him under the guise of an April Fools' joke.

I am fully aware that Alex Lotorto gave the staff of the Weekly permission to publish a fake article about him for their April Fools' Day edition. I do not presume to express Alex's views, only my own.

The Weekly is read by students, faculty, administrators, parents, and alumni. It is a student publication, and, as such, it represents us, the student body.

I, for one, do not want to be represented by a publication in which individual students are made the object of contempt and ridicule. Even if we assume that Alex was fully aware of what the article said prior to its publication, we, as Muhlenberg students, are not obligated to indulge the Weekly's staff when they make a joke at another student's expense.

I believe that the Weekly's staff are good people, but they need to learn that having a willing target does not absolve them from the responsibility of maintaining, at the very least, a minimal level of taste and journalistic integrity.

## NIMRODS FROM PAGE 2

Alabama. The basic theme these examples are driving at is the reality that playing nice and talking endlessly does not work. These violent countries are walking all over the UN and the UN's inaction puts America and everyone else at risk.

This is the exact reason why Americans are becoming increasingly discontent with the United Nations. According to a Rasmussen poll, 65% of Americans believe the UN is doing a poor job and one in four Americans want to permanently pull out of the UN. It is useless in their eyes, nothing more than a waste of tax dollars. Who can blame their frustration? Here is some advice for the Secretary General: don't insult the country that keeps your organization afloat. This might help the UN's popularity among Americans.

The record of the UN does one thing: it shows Ban Ki-Moon that the UN is the deadbeat. He is running an ineffective and weak organization. We should now come to the conclusion that the UN is not just ungrateful toward American contributions, but also useless. It would be more appropriate for it to be described as a group of Useless Nincompoops.

## THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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# National stress out day carnival

By Kelly Frazee  
NEWS EDITOR

If you are like me, you are stressed out over final exams, papers, and the tons of other things you have to get done. What we all really need is to take a break every once in a while. So on Fri., April 17 join Active Minds, the new student-run mental health awareness, education, and advocacy club on campus and the Psychology Club, to take a break from your hectic schedule and have some fun with kickball, finger paint, four squares, play dough, snow cones, balloon animals, make-your-own stress balls and much more!

On Fri., April 17 we are celebrating National Stress Out Day, an annual event sponsored by Active Minds, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public charity headquartered in Washington, D.C., and the Anxiety Disorders Association of America, with support from the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Active Minds is the only national organization working to utilize the student voice to change the conversation about mental health on college campuses. Currently, Active Minds has over 180 chapters on college campuses across the nation. By taking part in the event, we are joining thousands of students on college campuses across the country in the movement for mental health awareness.

The purpose of the National Stress Out Day Carnival is to help students ease their stress and anxiety before finals by hosting fun activities that fall under the umbrellas of recess, carnivals, and arts and crafts. We also want

to make sure that students are aware that while much of the stress and anxiety that college students experience is normal and even healthy, unrelenting anxiety may be a sign of an anxiety disorder. Anxiety disorders include generalized anxiety disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), social anxiety disorder and phobias.

Anxiety disorders affect more than 40 million Americans, including many college students. Most people with anxiety disorders experience their first episode by 21; however, the negative stigma of mental illness interferes with many young people seeking help. Anxiety disorders can affect a student's personal life and academic success if left untreated, but the good news is that research shows early diagnosis and treatment can prevent the above stated negative repercussions. There are a myriad of resources on our campus to fit all of our needs. Whether one needs help managing the stress of finals or coping with an anxiety disorder or another form of mental illness, help is available and you are not alone. We may not realize it, but all around us in everyday life are people suffering from a mental illness. The truth is, you never know. You never know who is struggling with their mental health. It could be your best friend, sibling, cousin, roommate, professor, the person driving behind you on I-78, or it could be...you.

We hope you will join us on Fri., April 17 on the Front Lawn to learn more and have some fun reducing your stress!

## America must take action

By Matthew Cobaugh  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

With the news of the positive outcome of the Somali Pirate hostage situation, we can breathe a sigh of relief. The situation has been rectified by the calm brilliance of America's Navy Seals. As a result, Captain Richard Philips can return home to his wife and beloved American soil. Naturally, the American media has taken this story and turned it into dripping praise for President Obama's cool hand and steady decision making. While I commend Obama for making the decision to end the lives of these high sea terrorists, I take (as I often do) a much more critical and deliberate interpretation of the events which have taken place.

The media has deliberately given all credit to the Obama administration for calmly rectifying the situation, while completely ignoring the true heroes. The Navy marksmen were able to hit their targets simultaneously and leave Captain Philips miraculously unscathed, even while one of the targets reportedly held a soviet AK-47 to his head. While it is reported that President

Obama has a "cool hand," I doubt that even he has a cool enough hand to squeeze the trigger in that situation.

The credit for the outcome of this situation deserves to be given to the men and women in uniform and the three men who did pull the trigger. I also do not see how President Obama can be so arrogant to allow reporters to grant him any credit over this situation. It is his responsibility to give the credit where it is due, to these three American heroes.

It is my intention to make this hostage situation a teachable moment for the Obama administration. The result of this debacle hits at the heart of what governs our society and our world, and that is the aggressive use of force. The situation has been rectified brilliantly by the destruction of the Somali Pirates and now the precedent has been set. If you plan to hijack American ships for money, then you will be killed.

This type of force is non-negotiable. It is my hope that Obama learns from this situation that if America is threatened, sitting around a table will not solve the issues. Surely talking it over with

the pirates would not have changed their motives, but destroying them has. How does one negotiate with terrorists whose main objective is your annihilation? How does the Obama administration plan to negotiate with Iran who wishes to finish what Hitler started?

Surely in these given situations the person with the greatest threat will win, whether it be Iran, Israel, or America. With the Obama administration suspiciously quiet over North Korea's latest cruise missile launch, I am beginning to lose hope. Then with Iran's latest boastful announcement of more nuclear centrifuges, I am beginning to wonder if the Obama administration even cares about the Iranian threat to the Jewish state.

The Obama administration's conflicting reactions to two similar forms of terrorism concerns me. The world is governed by the aggressive use of force and cutting military spending will only spell disaster for all civil societies, not just for America. Hopefully, if the threat of annihilation looms over any other civil society, Obama will not take five days to decide it is time to pull the trigger and drop the threat.

## Summer at Scranton

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## An Insider's Guide to Student Government Elections

By Anne Ominous  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

For most clubs and organizations, the election of a new Executive Board is often a simple and a private obligation. However, I also believe that when it is the election of the new Executive Board of Student Government, the students have a right to know who was elected, and more importantly why. So, from a Student Government Representative to you, the students, I give you the "behind closed doors" account of our latest election, complete with all the little details: from the shady campaigning and cut throat tactics, to the core of the cliques on Student Government that run the elections.

Before I begin my insiders perspective on the election, I'd just like to say a few things. As a proud member of Student Government I know that it is a body that has accomplished more and provided more for students than it will ever be given credit for. My fellow representatives work unimaginable hours on more than just a few events (as some claim) but on internal & academic policy, renovation plans, faculty & administrative committee work, wireless initiatives, and more. They are all impressive individuals who will continue to do great things for this campus and their peers, regardless of what little credit and attention they receive from the student body and the college administration. They are able to do so much because they are dedicated and ambitious people, and I am proud to say that I am one of them. And as one of them, I can also recognize the flaws in our ambition. When it comes to the Executive Board elections, we are no less dedicated and ambitious, whether we are the candidates running for the positions or advocating on their behalf. Allow me to paint you a picture of just what kind of politicians we can be when it comes to such elections.

After the General Student Government Elections, when the campus begins to settle down following a solid week of signing candidates forms and having the walls and trees littered with campaign foliage, things within Student Government only intensify. A handful of people begin campaigning for four key positions: Vice President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. Representatives will find themselves "accidentally" being bumped into on Academic Row by one of the candidates. Social gatherings become a stage production where the candidates do their best to put on Oscar-worthy performances as the perfect friend and candidate. Worse yet, dirty little secrets emerge about past deeds and dalliances in the hopes of discrediting enemies. As the Thursday night vote draws ever closer, the movers and shakers of Student Government begin backing certain candidates over others, brining in votes by association. The night before the election you can find every last

candidate with a list in their hand of every voting member and little marks next to the names of who is voting for whom in a desperate attempt to figure out their chances. Swing votes, those who say little during meetings and don't socialize outside of them, suddenly find themselves the bell of the ball by having lunch or sharing a quick text conversation with candidates. Speeches are written not just by the candidate, but by three or four of their closest friends.

By the time Thursday night elections roll around there have been clear lines drawn in the sand and woe to all who don't choose a side. While each year the alliances may change, rest assured they are always present. Some have been a long-standing presence in the room while others are newly founded in the hopes of taking down one of the larger groups during election season. One of the most powerful collection of voices, dare I say cliques, in the room belongs to that of the Delta Zeta sorority. This is not to say that Delta Zeta is the only collection of voices in the room, but for the purposes of this election, the Queen Bees of Greek life reigned supreme. While many of them are my dearest friends, I have to admit that their constant need to have representatives on the Executive Board borders on the brink of obsession.

This year will be the first in many years where there has only been one Delta Zeta sister serving on the Executive Board of Student Government. Our previous Student Body President, Sara Keller '10 was a Delta Zeta, as was her Treasurer and her Recording Secretary. While their voting numbers alone should guarantee that the Delta Zeta opinion is heard (only two greek female Representatives on Student Government are members of a sorority other than Delta Zeta), they still seem to insist on fighting their way into Executive Board positions. Leading the charge this year, whether she will admit it or not, was 2010 Class President Barrie Schessler.

From her position in the back of the room, Schessler successfully ran what I and others on Student Government believe to be the entire Executive Board election. The prime example of the power of such a group as Delta Zeta, and indeed the main battle of the night, was over the Vice Presidential position. The Vice Presidential election was between Jordan Sones '10 who had held the position for the past year; Sara Keller '10 fresh off her term as Student Body President; and Joe Armenti '10 who had just stepped down as Class President after three years in the position. Schessler herself nominated Keller, her sorority sister, who initially declined the nomination.

Later, after a few poorly shielded looks of disapproval from Schessler, Keller asked to be allowed to run for the position of Vice President, even after having already declined the nomina-

tion. Newly elected Student Body President Jonathan Falk '10 allowed the nomination to stand, and in that room what the President says goes.

It became apparent during the debate that the choice for Vice President was between Jordan Sones '10 and Sara Keller '10. While Keller was the clear choice for those who sided with the Delta Zeta crowd, I feel it only fair to point out that Sones was the clear choice for a second collective on Student Government. While this collective has no real name, its objective was clear: get Jordan Sones '10 re-elected to the Vice Presidential position and Samuel Landman '11 elected as the Executive Secretary. This group, largely made up of the Student Government Technology Committee (of which both Sones '10 and Landman '11 are members), spoke vehemently of the list of projects that Sones had brought forth and accomplished during his time as Vice-President. Indeed the list is impressive; those of you happily using your wireless, receiving HD channels on your television, or finding a roommate using the Study Abroad Housing Matchmaker program can all thank Mr. Sones for his dedication this past year.

The Delta Zeta crowd, specifically Schessler '10, had vehemently spoken out against this pairing earlier in the week because it would have had too many Representatives on the Executive Board who were personal friends of opposing candidate Jordan Sones. Personally, I see her point: President Jon Falk '10 is a roommate of Sones; Phil Weisgold '12, who ran unopposed for the Treasurer position, and Sam Landman '11 are both close friends with Sones. No matter who the Recording Secretary was, these four could easily outvote them on any issue if they put their minds, and their votes, to it. However, I do find it ironic that this would be the main point of dispute when both Keller '10 and Schessler '10 served two terms ago on an Executive Board made up of a majority of Delta Zeta members and with only one male member.

In the end, like all elections, it comes down to votes and who has them. Sara Keller '10 will be serving her third term on the Student Government Executive Board, this time as the Vice-President. Sam Landman '11 won his spot as Executive Secretary (which, had Jordan Sones retained his Vice Presidential position, he surely would have lost). Phil Weisgold '12 will be serving as the Student Government Treasurer, and Maya Spitalnik '12 will be the new Recording Secretary.

Congratulations to you all, even if I didn't vote for you. Finally, a special kudos to Miss Schessler for so smoothly running such an intricate election, I can't wait to see what you'll do next; and, believe me, I'm surely not the only one watching.

# WRITE FOR OP/ED!

Contact: SB234499@Muhlenberg.edu



# Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipients Announced

All information courtesy of Muhlenberg College Public Relations



**Muhammad Ali; one of the three Honorary Degree recipients.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALI.COM

The College announced on Apr. 14 that the following people will be awarded honorary doctoral degrees - Muhammad Ali, Galway Kinnell and The Honorable Kathleen A. McGinty - at its 161st Commencement ceremony, Sunday, May 17, at 10 a.m. on the College Green.

**Muhammad Ali** is a retired American boxer. In 1999, Ali was crowned "Sportsman of the Century" by Sports Illustrated. He won the World Heavyweight Boxing championship three times, the North American Boxing Federation championship, and an Olympic gold medal.

Ali was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the early 1980s, following which his motor functions began a slow decline. Despite the disability, he remains a beloved and active public figure. Recently he was voted into Forbes Celebrity 100 coming in at number 13 behind Donald Trump. In 1987 he was selected by the California Bicentennial Foundation for the U.S. Constitution to personify the vitality of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights in various high profile activities. He also published an oral history, *Muhammad Ali: His Life and Times* with Thomas Hauser, in 1991. Ali received a Spirit of America Award calling him the most recognized American in the world. In 1996, he had the honor of lighting the flame at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia. He received the Presidential Medal of Freedom at a White House ceremony on Nov. 9, 2005 and the prestigious "Otto Hahn peace medal in Gold" of the United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN) in Berlin for his work with the US civil rights movement and the United Nations.

On Nov. 19, 2005, the \$60 million non-profit Muhammad Ali Center opened in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. In addition to displaying his boxing memorabilia, the center focuses on core themes of peace, social responsibility, respect, and personal growth. Ali has since retired from boxing and has devoted himself to many humanitarian efforts.

**Galway Kinnell** is the author of thirteen books of poetry and one of the most influential and celebrated American poets of our time. He has become famous for his powerful readings of his poetry. For his *Selected Poems* (1982), he received

both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for Poetry. He is perhaps best known for *The Book of Nightmares* (1971), a series of ten poems that meditate on birth and death, on the civil rights movement, the destructiveness of man and the Vietnam War. Kinnell's most recent volume of poetry is titled, *Strong is Your Hold* (2006), which includes a searching elegy on 9-11. Until his recent retirement, he was the Erich Maria Remarque Professor of Creative Writing at NYU.

**The Honorable Kathleen A. McGinty** is founding partner, Peregrine Technology Partners LLC, a firm focused on the commercialization of clean technologies. She is a Director at NRG Energy, Inc., a leading wholesale power company, and an Operating Partner at Element LLC, a private equity firm investing in early and mid-stage clean technology companies. McGinty recently stepped down as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and as Chair of the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority. During her tenure, she helped lead the state's successful effort to attract market-leading renewable energy companies to headquarter and manufacture in Pennsylvania, bringing more than a \$1 billion in new investment and creating some 3,000 new jobs. Previous to her service in Pennsylvania, McGinty was Bill Clinton's Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality and Legislative Assistant and Environmental Advisor to then-Senator Al Gore.

The College also announced that director and producer **Gilbert Cates**, former President of the Directors Guild of America (DGA), will speak at Commencement. The ceremony will be held on the College's historic quad. Cates will also be awarded an honorary doctorate.

Cates served two terms as President of the DGA from 1983 to 1987, and has served as a Board Member or officer of the Board since 1975. Currently, he serves as Secretary-Treasurer of the DGA; he has served in that capacity since 1997. Cates is only the third person in history to receive the DGA's Presidents Award. In 1989, he received the Guild's Robert B. Aldrich Award for extraordinary service and in 1991 he received the DGA's Honorary Life Membership. In early 2005, he was also awarded the American Society of Cinematographers Board of Governor's Award.

Cates is recognized as a leader in television, film and theater. Currently presiding as the Producing Director of the Geffen Playhouse, he is dedicated to enriching the Los Angeles theatrical spectrum by presenting the finest in contemporary and classical theater. As a non-profit professional theater company, the Geffen's priority is its audience and its community, which it reaches with extensive education and outreach programs. This summer, Cates will direct the World Premiere musical of *Nightmare Alley* at the Geffen Playhouse. He most recently directed Jeffrey Hatcher's *A Picasso* for the Geffen Playhouse. In 2004 he directed a new adaptation of Lerner & Loewe's *Paint Your Wagon*, and in September 2002, he directed David Eldridge's *Under the Blue Sky* for Geffen Playhouse. He also directed *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* in 2005, the inaugural production in the newly-renovated Geffen Playhouse. In November 1996, Mr. Cates was the recipient of the Jimmy Dolittle Award for Outstanding Contribution to Los Angeles Theater. In 1999 he

received the Ovation Award for best play for directing *Collected Stories*.

In the early years of his career Cates produced and directed many plays on and off Broadway, including: *You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running*, *I Never Sang for My Father*, *Voices*, and *Tricks of the Trade*. He produced and directed the 1970 film version of the Broadway hit *I Never Sang for My Father*. The movie earned three Academy Award nominations. Cates also directed the 1973 film *Summer Wishes, Winter Dreams*, which received two Oscar nominations. Other film directing credits include: *The Promise*, *One Summer Love*, *The Last Married Couple in America*, *Oh! God Book II* and *Backfire*.

Cates further distinguished himself as director and/or producer of a number of television specials. These include 11 years as Executive Producer of ABC's *An American Celebration at Ford's Theatre*, NBC's 1972 Emmy Award-winning *To All My Friends on Shore*, starring Bill Cosby; ABC's 1974 *The Affair* and NBC's 1975 *After the Fall*. Other film credits include: *Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye*, *The Kid from Nowhere*, *Country Gold*, *Faerie Tale Theatre's Rapunzel and Goldilocks and the Three Bears*; *Hobson's Choice*, *Burning Rage*, *Consenting Adults*, *Fatal Judgment*, *Do You Know the Muffin Man*, *Call Me Anna*, *Absolute Strangers*, *In My Daughter's Name*, and Tom Clancy's *Netforce*. He directed James Agee's *A Death in the Family*, for Masterpiece Theatre's American Collection on PBS. His most recent small screen project was a hi-definition adaptation of *Collected Stories*, for PBS Hollywood Presents.

Cates most recently produced the *80th Annual Academy Awards* show for ABC. It was Cates' 14th occasion producing the Awards, for which he has already garnered numerous Emmy Awards and nominations. He held the position of Dean of the UCLA School of Theater Film and Television (which he founded) from 1990-1998. He continues to teach directing and acting for the UCLA School of Theatre, Film and Television. In 2005, he was awarded a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, in the Motion Picture category. Born in New York City, Cates is married to Dr. Judith Reichman. He has four children, two stepchildren and is a grandfather of six.



**The Honorable Kathleen A. McGinty.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE PUBLIC RELATIONS



# Dress Upon A Star makes prom possible for local high school students

By Kelly Frazee  
NEWS EDITOR

On Fri., Apr. 3  
from 3:00 p.m. to  
6:00 p.m. students

from the College's "Dress Upon A Star" set up 500 dresses, over 150 pairs of shoes, and various shawls, purses, and jewelry for the female students of William Allen High School to look through and chose one dress, one pair of shoes, one shawl, one purse, and two pieces of jewelry to take home with them, completely for free, so that "despite possible financial burdens, they can have the same experiences that we were able to have," explained Kate Mullin '11, one of four Dress Upon A Star co-chairs. "We wanted to reach out to the community outside of Muhlenberg and help make prom special for all of the girls of the High School," said Stacie Graff '11 and Laura Brehm '11, also co-chairs of the club.

"It's a really cool experience especially for people who can't afford things for prom otherwise. I would definitely tell the underclassman to take advantage of this in the future," said a Senior of William Allen High School as she was waiting in line for a dressing room. After excitedly looking through 500 dresses, she had found three that she wanted to try on before she selected the one that she would take with her, for free, in preparation for her Senior Prom. "This is so exciting!" exclaimed another student as she tried to make a decision as to which bucket she wanted to put her raffle ticket in.

Dress Upon A Star has been planning this event since Mar. 2008, upon the completion of a similar event that month. The event last year was aimed at the same concept, though, it was held in Moyer Hall, Miller Forum and there was a turnout of approximately 40 girls who attended. The Apr. 3 event yielded many, many more. Throughout the three hours there were nearly 200 shoppers and ultimately 150 dresses were given away. "After last year's event, we started working right away [with Beth Halpern, Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement] to revamp the event for this year," explained Graff. Mullin added, "We wanted to take the event off campus to make it more accessible for the girls and to hold it in a place that they are

comfortable in."

Also present were school administrators and faculty, Dean Green, Melissa Falk, and Beth Halpern. Amongst helping and encouraging the girls while finding a dress and accessories, Dean Green, overjoyed by the event, exclaimed, "This is a wonderful, wonderful event. I'm thrilled. It's just really special for Muhlenberg students to come into their space and do all of this."

Andrea Rosenfield '11, also a co-chair, further explained why they invested so much into this event. "Being a young woman is very hard. You have a lot to deal with and prom, especially, is something you do not forget. I know that if I was going to prom now, in these tough economic times, the expenses would be difficult for my family also. The most important thing to note, though, is that this was not a charity event. We are in no way better than the girls for whom this event was held. It was simply a day of girls reaching out to other girls."

All of the co-chairs are also extremely grateful for the businesses and people from which they received many generous donations. They received 200 dresses and 40 pairs of shoes from the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority at Lafayette and 150 pairs of shoes from the "Shoebbox," a local shop whose Georgia location was going out of business, enabling the store to donate their Georgia merchandise. Many pieces of jewelry came from Premier Jewelry and Michelle Consiglio '09. They also received over \$1000 of merchandise from "Good/Bad Girls" and the rest of it came from students and faculty on campus, friends, and family. Included in the many donations they received were many different gift baskets that were being raffled off. These gifts baskets included make-up, spa, hair and tanning certificates and much more. "It is so great because we have such a generous campus, and especially during these tough economic times, we are also so grateful for the people and businesses that were able and still willing to donate to help out a worthy cause."

For the future, Mullin explained that they would like to branch out and reach out to other high schools in the community. They also have plans to have more dressing rooms available next

year to accommodate a larger number of people and are hoping to get more Muhlenberg students and faculty to help out or maybe to have girls in the community help with the event to make it more collaborative.

Overall, the co-chairs were very pleased with the outcome of the event and would like to thank those who made it possible. In the end, "we all felt like we were able to make a difference with the work we did," said Rosenfield. "When you go there and see those girls faces light up with all of the choices they have, that it what makes it worth it."



Students of William Allen High School as they excitedly browse through hundreds of prom dresses.

PHOTO BY KELLY FRAZEE

## Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
<b>Sunny</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>Few Showers</b>
<b>High: 67</b>	<b>High: 69</b>	<b>High: 60</b>
<b>Low: 45</b>	<b>Low: 46</b>	<b>Low: 44</b>



# Mental Health Awareness event a success

By Cameron Webb  
WEEKLY NEWS WRITER

Wed., Apr. 1 was the speaker portion of Mental Health Awareness week. The following day was the "Celebration of Life" concert. The event on the Wed., Apr. 1 was well attended and lasted for about one hour and forty five minutes. The audience whole heartedly listened to each of the three speakers and gave them a much deserved round of applause after they had finished.

Melissa Berman '09, Mental Health Awareness committee chairperson, opened the event by telling her story of why she started this event when she came to the College. She said that in her sophomore year of high school, a close friend has taken his own life, where both his friends and family had no idea of his suffering. Berman said that no one had noticed any warning signs that something was wrong until he committed suicide. She then organized the Mental Health Awareness event when she came to the College to help make students aware of mental illness. She wanted students to realize when a friend or them self needs help. "The most important thing," she said, "is to know that you are not alone and that you should never be ashamed to ask for help."

Berman then introduced the first speaker for the night, Lieutenant in the Department of Campus Safety, Brenda Lakis, who shared many of her experiences with mental health as both an Officer and a mother. She said that her department has seen an increased number of students with mental health concerns over the years. She also explained that when Campus Safety arrives on the scene when receive a call for someone who needs help the first thing that goes through their mind is "oh this person's drunk or he/she's on drugs." This is not because they are

judging the person. It is because that is part of their training. It's the first thing they are taught to expect. Lakis said that on many occasions, it is not until after they send the person to the hospital or to jail that they are then told that the person is mentally ill. So to this, she said that Campus Safety is still learning about issues of mental health as well and "if we are called because you or a friend needs help, you should not feel ashamed or embarrassed to tell the Officer that arrives to help you that you have a mental illness. If you tell them us right away, we will be able to take the proper course of action to get you help."

Former Muhlenberg student Becca Zafran spoke next about her long, persistent struggle with her own mental health and read a few of her journal entries which documented those struggles. Zafran first attended the College in the Fall of 2005 making her a part of the class of 2009; this year's graduating class. However, after taking many personal leaves of absence to attend to her mental health issues, Zafran officially withdrew from the College in February and is now taking classes at a community college near her home while she also works and attends regular therapy sessions. When she was a freshman at the College she decided to see someone at the Counseling Center but after a while, Zafran decided that she wanted to seek counsel off-campus so that she could leave her problems in that outside place and then come back to campus. Sometime after this, both Zafran and her therapist decided that the best course of action would be for Zafran to go on medication for depression. After this, there were a lot of ups and downs in her life. Zafran explained that after being through so much, including, depression, suicidal thoughts, physically harming herself

and being in and out of mental hospitals and emergency rooms, she has come to learn her own personal warning signs that alert her when she is not doing so well. She said that, for her, hopelessness is a huge indicator of when she needs to focus on what's going on with herself again. She explained that when she starts feeling like nothing is worth her time anymore, like nothing is ever going to any better and also when she starts losing interest in the things that she once loved, that is when she knows something is wrong. Through all of these experiences Zafran just keeps moving forward and never hesitates to seek help when she know she's needs it. One of the many things that she made perfectly clear, though, is that you never know who is suffering from mental illness. She said, "You did not walk into this room earlier and take a look at me and say 'She's the one who's speaking tonight, see, she looks like someone with mental health issues.'" She said there's no way to know who is suffering until they reach out for help or until something tragic happens. Zafran said, "This is why it is so important for people to understand mental health issues and for people to know that it's nothing to be ashamed of."

Professor of Psychology at the College and licensed Clinical Psychologist Dr. Kate Richmond followed Zafran by offering her own expertise on the subject. Richmond said an ever-growing problem that she sees everyday is that people who need help and who are trying to actively trying to seek help, in many cases, cannot afford it because a therapist or psychologist is not covered by their insurance. She said, "Mental illness is a growing and persistent problem in this country and it is a terrible thing if people cannot afford to get the help that they need." She went on to explain

the importance of campus groups like Active Minds and how the club can advocate for rights for individuals with mental illness in the larger community. Richmond specifically talked about how in Philadelphia, where she currently resides, she sees of and hears about disabled war veterans who are out on the streets trying to get money for the care that they need. Some veterans are not only physically disabled, but also suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). According to the National Institute of Mental Health, PTSD is an anxiety disorder that can develop after exposure to a terrifying event or ordeal where fatal physical harm either occurred or was threatened. Traumatic events that may trigger PTSD include violent personal assaults, natural or human-caused disasters, accidents, or military combat. "These are people who fought to protect their country," said Richmond, "and in return their country is not providing them with the proper care that they more than deserve."

At the conclusion of Richmond's presentation, Berman ended the event by thanking everyone for coming, especially the speakers, and prompted one last applause for each. After a solid few minutes of applause, Berman reminded everyone to go to the Celebration of Life concert the next day and then invited the audience to stay for a little while and mingle and ask the speakers any additional questions while enjoying the baked goods and chocolate yellow ribbon lollipops that were provided at the event.

Overall, the event was extremely successful and Berman and the rest of the Mental Health Awareness Committee were very pleased with the response to both the event and the success of the tabling in Seegers Union prior to the event.

## New Enthusiastic Writers Sign-up!

Write for News!

Email

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# Social Research Social Justice Conference

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

Apr. 2nd and 3rd marked the sixth annual Social Research Social Justice Conference on campus.

The conference has been held at the College every year since its origination, and was sponsored generously by the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges, the College's Department of Media and Communication, and the RJ Fellows Program. The Conference kicked off with a panel discussion on "Gender and Justice in the Lehigh Valley" on Thurs. Apr. 2 in Miller Forum. The panel featured Linda Lewis, a registered nurse and Medical Systems Advocate for Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, Jennifer Boulanger, the Executive Director of the Allentown Women's Center, and Liz Bradbury, the Executive director of the PA Diversity Network. The event was moderated by the College's own Media and Communication professor, Dr. Kate Ranieri, who co-directed this year's SRSJ Conference with Dr. Susan Kahlenberg. The panel led an eye-opening discussion on domestic violence, abortion rights, and gay, lesbian and transgender issues that occur throughout the Lehigh Valley.

Many local students have been inspired to further research the cultures and problems that surround these gender-related issues. The SJSR Conference gives students the opportunity to present their research on these and similar issues as well as to come together with students whose research is similar to their own. The conference has grown in size significantly since its beginnings, and this year marked the largest and most scholarly contributions of student research in the past six years.

The conference planning began at the beginning of this semester with a call for students to submit abstracts of their papers to Drs. Ranieri and Kahlenberg. The rise in the scholarly and serious levels of this research reflects very highly on liberal arts colleges. Submissions came from schools throughout the LVIAC, but also accepted

work from students at schools such as Westfield State College and Kutztown University. Dr. Ranieri stated that the prestigious submissions, many of which came from Muhlenberg's own student body, "[spoke] very highly of what a liberal arts education can do for students."

In addition to the numerous research sessions which occurred on Fri. Apr. 3, in which students were grouped by relevance and topic to present their research to interested students and faculty, other areas of the College student body made contributions to the conference. The Alpha Chi Omega Sorority led a sleepwear and underwear drive over the course of the week leading up to SRSJ and donated all of the collected items to Turning Point in Allentown. The girls of Alpha Chi took over the Garden Room for a night during this week to promote their drive during which they served food to students, presented information about women and domestic violence through handmade t-shirts and place settings, and collected monetary donations to be given to Turning Point.

The seniors of the College's RJ Fellows program also contributed to the Conference with their annual media festival. The festival was held at the conclusion of the Conference on Apr. 3 and displayed personal documentaries in which the graduating RJs reflect on one facet of change in their own lives and how each of them could be instruments of change.

Dr. Ranieri called the Conference a success, especially in terms of its ability to begin discussions about gender issues. She said that one of the most frequently asked questions in these discussions among students is what they can do to help solve problems present in these issues. In response, Dr. Ranieri enthusiastically recommended that students volunteer. "There is so much [students] can do," she explained, expressing her happiness with the success of the Conference and its ability to enlighten students and faculty.

## GOVERNMENT | FROM PAGE 1

Government.

As President Falk hit his gavel to begin the meeting, he was the only person standing in the front of the room. Members of the last E-Board - Fmr. President Keller, Fmr. Vice President Jordan Sones '10, Fmr. Executive Secretary Matthew Pearson '10, Fmr. Treasurer Barrie Schessler '10 and Fmr. Recording Secretary Samantha Busa '11 - found themselves in the unfamiliar position of facing the front of the room.

The first election was for Vice President. Sones, Keller, and Fmr. 2010 Class President Joe Armenti all ran for the position. Sones, running for re-election, was the first to give a speech to the rest of Student Government. In his nearly 4 minute long speech, Sones stressed what he accomplished as VP in the past and that he will continue his efforts to make Student Government better. Keller stressed her accomplishments as President and vowed to do the same as VP. Armenti spoke of the need for more transparency between Student Government and the student body. After all the candidates spoke, and following an 8-minute discussion, the Government came to a vote. Keller narrowly beat out both Sones and Armenti for the position, and she took her VP seat next to Falk in the front of the room.

The next election consisted of the Executive Secretary position previously occupied by Pearson. Sophomore Sam Landman, senior Angela Lucci and Busa all ran for the position. In his speech, Landman made the point that the Exec. Sec. was also chair of the Communications Committee and that, as such, he would work towards having the student body be more engaged in Student Government issues. Busa also spoke to point that more of the student body needs to be involved in government issues. She came up with the idea of having raffles at Student Government in an effort to increase attendance. Lucci mainly spoke about her accomplishments as the Fmr. Head of the Academics Committee, among other things. After a 15-minute discussion, Landman was

voted into the position and took his spot in the front of the room.

The third election on the docket was for Recording Secretary. Pearson, the favorite, ran against freshman Maya Spitalnik. Both spoke about why they should be in charge of recording what takes place at meetings. In an upset, Spitalnik narrowly defeated Pearson. During the discussion, the point was made that the recording secretary doesn't have a chance to speak as much as representatives do, and that Pearson was such an important voice to have that it shouldn't be silenced.

Finally, for the Head of the Treasury Committee, freshman Philip Weisgold ran unopposed, making Keller the only returning member of the Executive Board. After E-board was finalized, the rest of the meeting went quickly because there was very little to talk about since the heads of only two committees were selected. After the meeting, the E-board convened to select the rest of the committee heads. Lucci was brought back to be the head of the Academics Committee, sophomore Liz Martini was selected to head up the Housing & Safety Committee, and sophomore Courtney Brown was tabbed to head the Seegers & Dining Committee.

In a recent interview with The Weekly, President Falk spoke about his experiences so far as president of Student Government. Speaking about his first meeting Falk said, "Before the meeting, I was nervous. During the meeting however, I realized I had made it. My nerves were gone and my passion blossomed. And, after the meeting, I realized how much potential this government has." Speaking about the new Executive Board he said, "It's going to be great. The new E-



**New President Jonathan Falk posing behind the podium he will become familiar with over the next year.**

PHOTO BY MATTHEW HOWARD

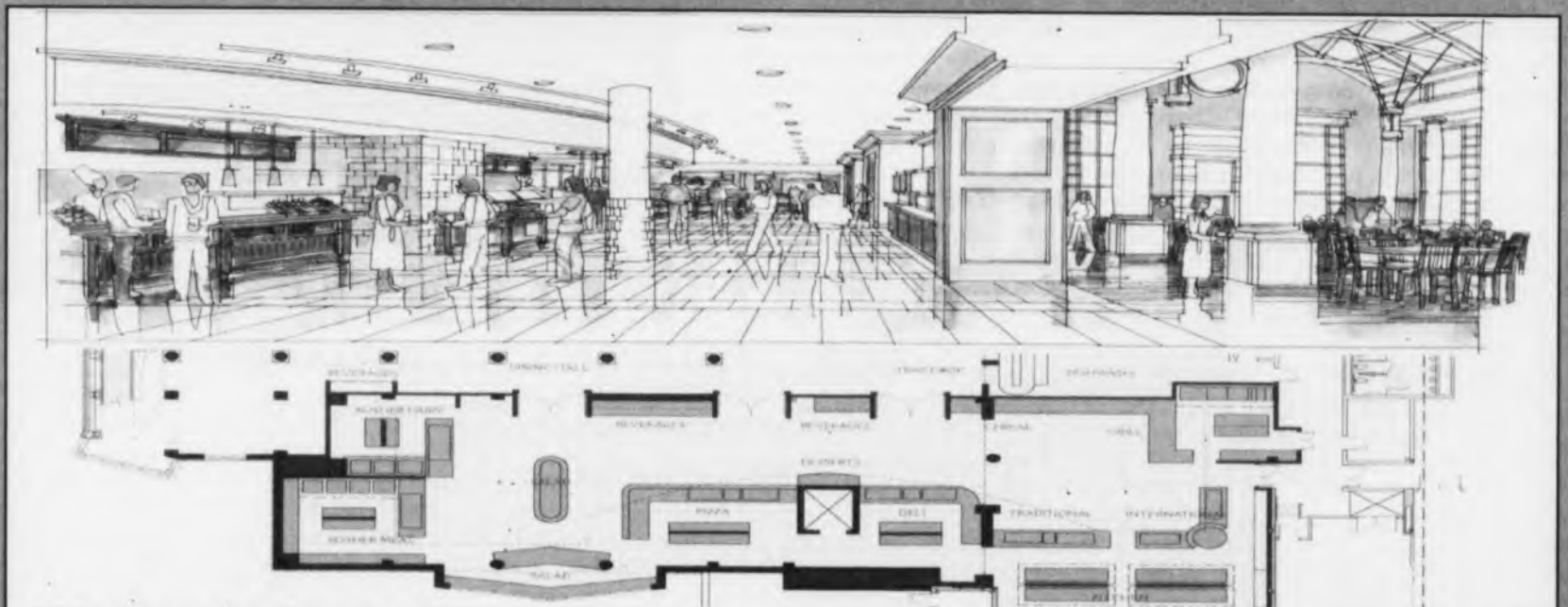
board will be more transparent and more accessible." When asked if anything has been accomplished since he took office, President Falk's eyes lit up with enthusiasm. "I am very excited to see the 'Red Door,' initiative taking place at Trumbower and the Hillel house, and many more to come. I want to thank Plant Operations for the terrific job they've done in painting the doors. For me, red doors symbolize an open campus and a welcoming community. I want every student to feel that way each time they step on campus."



# Seeger's Renovations!



Above left: An artist's rendition of the interior of the new dining hall. Above Right: An artist's rendering of the exterior of the new Union. Bottom Left and Right: An artist's rendition of the new Parents' Plaza. Bottom Center: The layout of the new kitchen and dining hall. These renovations will start at the culmination of the current academic year.



MUHLENBERG COLLEGE  
Seegers Student Union Renovation  
APRIL 16, 2009

Bruner/Cott  
architects and planners



Courtesy of Muhlenberg College Public Relations and David Rabold, Capital Projects Manager

## Campus Safety Notes

- Mar. 23 - Sick Student - In Martin Luther Hall, fourth floor, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was transported to the hospital.
- Mar. 24 - Sick Student - At 2259 Turner St. (Building #1, third floor), there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was taken to the Health Center. The student was later taken to the hospital by ambulance from the Health Center.
- Mar. 24 - Vehicle Violation - In the back drive, there was an illegally parked vehicle overnight. Campus Safety was unable to contact the owner. A towing company was called and towed the vehicle. The individual later went to Campus Safety and was given the information of where to pick up the vehicle.
- Mar. 24 - Institutional Vandalism - In the Life Sports Center, at the field house, there was a report of vandalism to the roof of Memorial Hall. Plant Operations were notified. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 24 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost wallet on campus. The owner was advised to cancel all cards.
- Mar. 24 - Larceny/Theft - In Parent's Plaza, it was reported that a banner was taken valued at around \$296. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 24 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2245 Liberty St., a fire alarm sounded due to cooking. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 24 - Found Property - In the Center for the Arts, first floor, a student found a cell phone. The item was placed in the evidence locker.
- Mar. 25 - Suspicious Activity - In Martin Luther Hall, second floor, a reporting party called to report a suspicious odor of marijuana in the hallway. Officers spoke with the students. Nothing was found at this time.
- Mar. 25 - Found Property - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, a cell phone was found. The item was placed in the evidence locker.
- Mar. 25 - Institutional Vandalism - At 2235 Gordon St., there was a report of an exterior light that was vandalized. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 25 - Larceny/Theft - In Walz Hall, first floor, it was reported that someone removed a plastic light cover and bulb from the first floor south entrance door. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 25 - Fire Alarm Sounding - On N. Leh St., a fire alarm sounded due to cooking. The system was silenced and reset. There was no further incident.
- Mar. 25 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In Robertson Hall, second floor, a fire alarm sounded due to burnt popcorn. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 25 - Lost Property - In Seegers Union, lower level, there was a report of a lost wallet. The owner was advised to cancel all cards.
- Mar. 25 - Institutional Vandalism - On Chew St., there was a report of vandalism where fresh paint was stenciled on a building. The student was spoken to and cleaned it off. Plant Operations also responded for clean up. There was no further incident.
- Mar. 25 - Found Property - In the Life Sports Center, at the field house, it was reported that a bag was left after the Mr. Muhlenberg event. The item was placed in the evidence locker.
- Mar. 25 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 414 Albright St., a fire alarm sounded due to steam from a shower. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 25 - Sick Student - In Robertson Hall, third floor, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student refused transportation and was advised to see the Health Center the following day.
- Mar. 26 - Trashing/Excessive Clean Up - On campus, there was a report of pizza coupons left at entrance doors to several residence halls. There were about 15 to 20 of them at each door. Plant Operations gathered them up and put them in the trash.
- Mar. 26 - Found Property - In the front drive, a reporting party turned in a found student ID card. Campus Safety was unable to contact the student. The item was placed in the evidence locker.
- Mar. 26 - Larceny/Theft - In the basement of Trumbower, there was a report of a stolen cell phone. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 26 - Larceny/Theft - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, there was a reporting theft of a laptop from a room. There are no suspects at this time. The student later called to report the laptop was found.
- Mar. 26 - Sick Student - In Brown Hall, third floor, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was transported to the hospital.
- Mar. 26 - Underage Purchase, Possession, and Transport - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, there was an alcohol violation. Several open and unopened bottles and one liquor bottle was found in a room. Referred to the Dean of Students.
- Mar. 27 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In Martin Luther Hall, a fire alarm sounded from smoking in a room. Upon arrival it was also noted that the smoke detector was covered. A fire safety violation will be issued. The system was silenced and reset. The smoke detector was also uncovered.
- Mar. 27 - Drug Possession (Marijuana) - In Martin Luther Hall, third floor, while responding to the fire alarm, in plain view, drugs, drug paraphernalia, candles, and alcohol were found. Referred to the Dean of Students.
- Mar. 28 - Institutional Vandalism - In the New Science Building, a reporting party heard glass shattering between Seegers and the New Science Building. Upon arrival it was noted that four post lights were knocked over. Allentown Police were also on scene. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 28 - Underage Purchase, Possession, and Transport - In Seegers Union, there was a sick student whose illness was alcohol related. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were paged. The student was transported to the hospital.
- Mar. 28 - Drug Possession (Marijuana) - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, there was a report of possession of drug paraphernalia. The individual was arrested by Allentown Police Department for possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Mar. 28 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, a fire alarm sounded due to steam from a shower. There was no further incident.
- Mar. 28 - Institutional Vandalism - At the Hoffman House, fence slats were broken and a small dumpster was overturned. Plant Operations were notified by work order. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 28 - Sick Student - In Prosser Hall, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was paged. The student was transported to the hospital.
- Mar. 28 - Fire Alarm Sounding - On Albright St., a fire alarm sounded due to steam from a shower. The alarm could not be reset. Plant Operations responded and replaced the detector. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 28 - Larceny/Theft - On the front drive, an officer reported the theft of five Muhlenberg College flags from the front circle. There are no suspects at this time.
- Mar. 28 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 330 N. 22 St. (Phi Mu), a fire alarm sounded due to burnt food. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 28 - Disruptive Conduct - On N. 22 St., there was a report of a loud party. A disruptive conduct report will be issued. Allentown Police Department also responded.
- Mar. 29 - Disruptive Conduct - On N. 22 St., there was another report of a loud party related to the earlier call. A disruptive conduct report will be issued. Allentown Police Department also responded.
- Mar. 29 - Terroristic Threats - On N. 22 St., there was a report of a student threatening another student. The suspect allegedly produced a firearm. Allentown Police Department responded. A weapon was located in a vehicle associated with the suspect. The student was arrested by Allentown Police Department for terroristic threats and misdemeanor harassment. Allentown Police Department is investigating the incident. The Dean of Students was notified.
- Mar. 29 - Found Property - In Walz Hall, fourth floor, a cell phone was found. Contact was made with a friend of the owner who will call the roommate to notify that the phone is at the Campus Safety office. The item was placed in the lost and found locker for pick up.
- Mar. 29 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 432 Albright St., a fire alarm sounded due to steam from a shower. The system was silenced and reset.
- Mar. 29 - Found Property - On N. 23 St., a cell phone was found. The parent was notified and will contact the student to pick it up in the Campus Safety office. The phone was placed in the evidence locker.
- Mar. 30 - Institutional Vandalism - In Trexler Library, A Level, a reporting party reported graffiti.



Someone drew a penis on the arm of a sofa chair in seminar room A. Housekeeping was notified to remove the graffiti. There are no suspects at this time.

Mar. 30 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In East Hall, building A, first floor, a fire alarm sounded due to burnt popcorn. The system was silenced and reset.

Mar. 31 - Found Property - In the New Science Building, first floor, a key-chain was found. There were no Muhlenberg College keys on it. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Mar. 31 - Larceny/Theft - In the Life Sports Center, an email was received reporting the theft of athletic jerseys valued at \$120. There are no suspects at this time.

Mar. 31 - Found Property - At the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, a reporting party found a student ID card. A message was left on the owner's cell phone to pick it up at the Campus Safety office.

Mar. 31 - Found Property - In the East Hall fire lane, a set of keys was found. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 1 - Injured Student - In Brown Hall, ground floor, there was a report of an injured student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 1 - Lost Property - There was a report of a lost wallet on campus. The owner was advised to cancel all cards.

Apr. 2 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2442 Tilghman St., a fire alarm sounded due to burnt food. The system was silenced and reset.

Apr. 2 - Fraud - Off campus there was a report of a fraudulent Muhlenberg College check attempted to be cashed off campus on or about Mar. 17, 2009. No funds were able to be obtained.

Apr. 2 - Found Property - In the Life Sports Center, at

the field house, it was reported that there are numerous items that have been there for about six months. It was requested that an officer pick them up. The items were placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 2 - Sick Student - In Brown Hall, second floor, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was taken to the hospital.

Apr. 2 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Walz Hall, first floor, while reporting to a fire alarm, alcohol was found in a room in plain view. The items were taken to the Campus Safety office and placed in the evidence locker. Referred to Judicial.

Apr. 3 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 417 Leh St., a fire alarm sounded due to burnt food. The system was silenced and reset.

Apr. 3 - Freshman with Auto - On N. 26 St., information was received that a freshman has a car on campus. The vehicle was ticketed and a message was left with the student to see an officer at Campus Safety.

Apr. 3 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, an officer reported stopping students who were bringing beer into the building. The alcohol was taken and placed in the evidence lockers. Referred to Judicial.

Apr. 4 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Walz Hall, there was a report of a sick student whose illness was alcohol related. Muhlenberg College EMS and Allentown EMS responded and the Health Center was paged. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 4 - Lost Property - At the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, there was a report of a lost jacket containing a cell phone and an iPod.

Apr. 4 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 2442 Tilghman St., a fire alarm sounded due to cooking.

The system was silenced and reset.

Apr. 4 - Fire Alarm Sounding - In East Hall, building D, a fire alarm sounded. No cause was noted as to why the alarm went off. A work order was placed for the detector to be checked or replaced. There was no further incident.

Apr. 4 - Larceny/Theft - At the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, a student reported numerous thefts of a jacket that was taken on campus. The investigation will continue.

Apr. 4 - Vandalism to Vehicle - On N. 23 St., there was a report of a broken back window to a vehicle. It might have been caused by a tree branch. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 4 - Forcible Rape - Campus Safety received a Jane Doe report of an alleged sexual assault/rape. The reported incident occurred in the early morning hours of Apr. 4, 2009 on campus, in a residence hall. The suspect is a non-student guest who has since left campus. A notice was sent out to the campus community.

Apr. 4 - Intoxicated Person - In the East Hall fire lane, there was a report of a person lying on the ground after a fall from a bicycle. An officer requested Allentown Police Department to come and pick up the intoxicated individual who was a non-student. The incident was handled by the Allentown Police Department.

Apr. 5 - Injured Student - In Prosser Hall, there was a report of an injured student. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were paged. The student refused treatment.

Apr. 5 - Disruptive Conduct - On N. 22 St., a noise complaint was received. Allentown Police responded and will be issuing a disruptive conduct report. Fines will also be issued.

Apr. 5 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Prosser Hall Main, first floor, there was a report of an alcohol violation. There were numerous

full and empty cans in plain view. The full cans were placed in the evidence locker and the empty cans were disposed of. Referred to Judicial.

Apr. 5 - Disruptive Conduct - On N. 22 St., there was a noise complaint. A disruptive conduct report and a fine will be issued.

Apr. 5 - Found Property - In Seegers Union, a reporting party found a video game that was accidentally thrown in the garbage. The item was put in the evidence locker.

Apr. 5 - Found Property - In Benfer Hall, a parking sign was found that was previously reported stolen. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 5 - Found Property - Off campus, a reporting party found a student's wallet. An email was sent to the student to pick it up at the Campus Safety office.

Apr. 5 - Sick Student - In Prosser Hall Main, second floor, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded. Allentown EMS, Allentown Fire Department, and the Health Center were notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 5 - Sick Student - In Taylor Hall, second floor, there was a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded. Allentown EMS and the Health Center were notified.

Apr. 6 - Larceny/Theft - In Brown Hall, ground floor, there was a report that a wallet was taken from a room the day before. There are no suspects at this time. A while after making this report, the student called back to report that the wallet and all of its contents had been found.

Apr. 6 - Found Property - In the New Science Building, a sweatshirt was found. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 6 - Lost Property - On campus, there was a report of a lost wallet for around two days. The owner was advised to cancel all cards.

Apr. 6 - Sick Visitor - In Seegers Union, upper level,

there was a report of an unconscious worker in General's Quarters. Someone on scene called 911. Allentown EMS and Allentown Fire Department responded. The person was transported to the hospital by Allentown EMS.

Apr. 7 - Injured Student - In Prosser Hall, there was an injured student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 7 - Found Property - In the Prosser Hall parking lot, a student ID card and wallet was found. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 8 - Institutional Vandalism - In South Hall, inside the elevator on the right door, male genitalia were scratched in the paint surface. Plant Operations were notified. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 8 - Trespassing - In Seegers Union, lower level, a call was received from a student stating a student that is not allowed on campus was in the Red Door. The incident was handled by the Dean of Students office.

Apr. 8 - Harassment - In Prosser Hall, a student wanted to file a report about harassment caused by a roommate dispute. Referred to the Housing office.

Apr. 9 - Vandalism to Vehicle - On N. Ott St., there was a report of a vandalized driver's side window of a vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 9 - Sick Student - In the basement of Taylor Hall, a student passed out. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the student was transported to the Health Center.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."

- Robert Frost

## Relay for Life

By Jordan Shafer  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

Cancer affects everyone. I cannot think of a single one of my friends who has not, in some way, had cancer affect their life. This is why every year so many Muhlenberg students contribute to Relay for Life. It is our way of fighting back. Personally, I relay for my grandfather. He smoked his entire adult life and did not quit until after I was born; he was already in his sixties. When I seven years-old he was diagnosed with lung cancer. He had surgery and seemed fine. A year later; however, it was discovered that the cancer had spread to his brain. He was given only a few months to live. My mom was devastated that my sister and I would grow up without the chance to get to know our grandfather. But miraculously he went into remission for five years. My sister Leah and I were able to spend a few days each summer at his farmhouse in Vermont and we were given the chance to know and love him as we grew up.

During his remission, my grandfather participated in Relay himself. He always seemed so proud and touched to be honored by the survivors' lap. He was given a medal each year at Relay. Eventually though, the cancer in his lungs reappeared and spread to his brain. Less than a week before my Bat Mitzvah we found out that he and my step-grandmother would not be able to attend; he was in the hospital. Again he was given a few months to

live. My family's summer vacation to Montreal was cut short so we could spend more time with him. Even though I was only thirteen years-old at the time I will never forget the inhumanity his body inflicted upon him in those last few months. Hospice set up a bed for him in his living room so he could look out the window at the old barn across the street.

My step-grandmother and the hospice workers had to rub Crisco on his back and then wrap it in plastic wrap to soothe his bed sores. In the last few months of his life, my grandfather was reduced to a baked good. His skin turned yellow from the jaundice.

As he grew thinner and thinner his eyes appeared bigger and child-like. I spent a few days that summer helping my step-grandmother take care of him. I read to him from a book about the Red Sox just as he had read to me as a little girl. Mostly, though I will never forget what all this did to my step-grandmother. She ate as little as he did; she was so upset she had no appetite. She broke down and cried to me, a thirteen-year-old, several times. Eventually when he did pass that September it was a relief to all of us to know he was no longer in such pain.

After he died, my step-grandmother gave both my sister and I each one of those medals. It is my

favorite thing to remember him by because I know how much those medals meant to him - that he was given that extra time with his family.

This is why I Relay. It is so important to me that no one should go through what either my grandfather went through that summer or even what my family went through. My grandfather underwent a degrading, painful, scary experience at the end of his life. I never want to see some-

*"Mission delivery runs the fight back ceremony which encourages each participant to personally fight back against cancer over the year."*

one I love go through that again. This is why I Relay. Others at Muhlenberg and across the country have had countless similar experiences. It is no surprise that Relay is such a huge end-of-the-year event here on campus. For these reasons, I encourage everyone who is not

yet registered to register online at [www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege](http://www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege). It only costs ten dollars to register and it is very easy to raise a lot more than that just by asking family and friends for small donations. Everyone is affected by cancer and we should do our best to eliminate it.

Last year, Muhlenberg raised \$45,000 for the American Cancer Society at our Relay for Life. This was the biggest fundraising event in the Lehigh Valley. This year, the fundraising goal for our Relay for Life is \$50,000. So far, we have raised about \$30,000.

Colleges Against Cancer has run

a lot of fundraisers already this semester. We ran a piñata party in Seegers; three swings for a dollar. We sold carnations and roses for Valentine's Day. There has also been a "butt cookie" bake-sale to raise colorectal cancer awareness. APO's "flush for a cure" was a penny war between four professors and staff members; the professor with the most money in his or her jug at the end of the week had their desk chair replaced by a purple toilet for a day.

One important aspect of Relay for Life is mission delivery. Mission delivery runs the fight back ceremony which encourages each participant to personally fight back against cancer over the next year. Mission delivery also allows participants to honor or commemorate a loved one touched by cancer in some way. The luminaria ceremony also honors survivors and remembers those who have lost their battle to cancer.

Another big event at Relay is the survivor lap. This honors everyone who comes to Relay who is a cancer survivor. It also encourages all the Relay participants to help make everyone touched by cancer a survivor through our fundraising efforts.

The day's activities include a barbecue and lots of entertainment. All the on-campus acapella groups and dance teams are scheduled to perform. This year's theme is "Relay through the Decades" because it is the fifth year that Muhlenberg has hosted Relay. Relay for Life will take place on Sun., Apr. 26, from 10 am to 10 pm.

## Girl Talk: Master of musical mixery

By Nick LaFalce  
WEEKLY LIFE WRITER

I'm not referring to the 1988 board game, or what transpires when your female dates weirdly go to the bathroom together to talk about you and how the night is going; I'm talking about the mash-up master producer who is making musical revolutions...with other people's music. If you haven't heard about Girl Talk by now, you're among a chosen few at this

school, age-group or even planet.

Spinning anything from classic rock to jazz to rap, ex-biomedical engineer Gregg Gillis, also known as Girl Talk, shows that there are no boundaries for what a guy can do with his turntables and a little seran warp.

While many people have been experimenting with mash-ups for some time now (The Beatles and Jay-Z's The Grey Album is the most notable), Girl Talk takes it from mixing a song or two into each

other to having as many as 20 songs interact with each other per track.

With each of his four albums consisting of one track that are broken up into shorter songs, the flow never stops.

Putting on a Girl Talk CD at a party is like having a DJ in your basement - one that has a diverse working catalogue and somehow caters to every person there.

On 2006's Night Ripper for example, the beat of Ciara's "Goodies" with the keyboards and guitar from

"Foreplay" by rock band Boston serve as the foundation for Ludacris to rap over. Samplings continue to range from OutKast to Foo Fighters, 50 Cent to Weezer.

In my honest opinion, the mixture of danceable beats with good (read: mostly classic rock) music makes this the ideal music for a party and keeps everybody happy.

Girl Talk will be performing at Lafayette College on April 29th. Tickets can be purchased at [www.LafayetteTicketsOnline.com](http://www.LafayetteTicketsOnline.com).



# Technological frugality and legality

By Kyle Hamilton  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Despite what most Muhlenbergers might believe, we actually have a pretty sweet setup here at school. There is a 10 MBPS wireless connection smattered around, a T3 Ethernet connection, free electricity, free software, free technical support and services, protection from the RIAA, and 24/7 access to computer laboratories and printers.

No, life doesn't get much better than this technological Eden. ...But wait! What do I see on the horizon? Oh Stallman, no! It's bills and expenses; companies that will make us pay a literal arm and a leg!

We stand on the very precipice of darkness: The end of senior year and a harsh trial-by-fire entry into the real world. For some of you, this realization is neither new nor troublesome. Daddy-darling pays the bills, you can live at home, and the only real change is that you won't be living on Muhlenberg campus anymore.

For the rest of us, the poorhouse economy and succumbing to our own newbish fear is inevitable. I recently did some math-craft and figured that all my expenses would come somewhere near the \$20k per year mark. And then, as if inspired by Jonathan James himself, I remembered all of my pyrate phreaking training.

And now, in my vast generosity, I am willing to share some tech tricks to shave thousands of dollars off of your expenses. Get it now before I charge an exorbitant fee for it.

Please be aware that the following is only intended for informational purposes and neither the Weekly nor myself advocate any illegal activities.

The advice should only be done where and if they are legal where you live.

Besides the obvious tactics of turning off your computer when it isn't

needed, a good idea might be to only charge your laptop while at work or at the library. Is that too basic for you? Well, what about saving on software? Microsoft Office costs around \$100. Why not try using OpenOffice? It's freeware that, like the name implies, is free. Are there other programs out there that you want?

A quick Google search for the type of software you desire with the following added, "open source." Heck, if you feel adventurous why not save a few hundred dollars more and download an open source OS like Fedora or Ubuntu? You can find them online configured to look exactly like either Windows or Apple machines.

Unfortunately, searching for free versions of products can sometimes lead towards decoys that are actually viruses. Places like BestBuy and other stores charge upwards of \$200 for even the most menial tasks.

You could learn how to fix your machine yourself, but why go to all that much trouble?

There are a few little things you can do for your machine to make sure it never gets infected in the first place.

For example, make sure you have an anti-virus that updates its definitions every day and has real time protection. You can also avoid problems by using Firefox as an Internet browser.

Double your protection with useful add-ons like WOT, NoScript, and Interclue to prevent you from going to harmful websites in the first place! If you're still reading, you are probably rolling your eyes about my advice. Well how about I tell you how to save some Benjamins through free wireless?

Try downloading a program called Kismet (or Kismac for Apple and Linux machines).

With a little finagling and with the right wireless card, you get access to a

whole host of options. Take your laptop for a walk around where you live to see what signals you can yank. Then, if you see any near you that are not public - you have a few options.

You can make them available to your machine through packet flooding and brute force capturing in order to decrypt their WEP or even their WPA passwords.

Even MAC address exclusions can be worked around. Mark with chalk where you get your best signals and an arrow pointing to where you believe their router is.

Go back to your apartment / house and set up a dish. You can either buy a capture device to get a stronger signal or there are even instructions on the Internet about how to make one from household stuff.

Music and movies can also be rather expensive, even on iTunes. So why pay for them? Some people use Limewire and torrent programs to get everything that they want. Unfortunately, once you leave school then you will no longer be protected by Muhlenberg's shield of anonymity from all of our proxies / firewalls.

The RIAA and other organizations can slam you with massive fees and, worse yet, they now have the right to totally cut off your Internet. So hey, why not just use good ol' YouTube?

Instead, Google how to download videos or audio from there and get your stuff that way. Indeed, this is only what net-savvy people call "semi-illegal." Technically it can be linked to stealing but really, you're just taking the available scripts that YouTube puts up. YouTube doesn't really own the material in question so until legislation is passed against it, download like crazy!

Also check out the latest copy of MyTunes for downloading from people who share their music.

Quick question: Are any of you guys actually paying for cable TV? If so, here's a better question: Why? Most of your favorite shows are available online. Hulu, YouTube, and a number of other services let you check it out for free.

And hey, if you want, utilize those streaming video downloaders I mentioned before and you can keep them on your computer!

One of the biggest expenses in the technology department is through different hardware.

Luckily, there are a million and one websites out there that get you great deals.

Check out newegg.com for computer parts, price-protectr.com to make sure you are getting the best deal possible, and woot.com for random great deals every day.

Also be sure to make use of Google shopping (Froogle) and you'll save a ton. Furthermore, unless what you are getting is a computer, do not get the extended warranty. Consumer Reports notes that products break, on average, only after an extended warranty runs out and that the repairs cost about as much as the warranty in the first place! Furthermore, if you buy with your credit card then you probably get slight coverage from your bank anyway.

Unfortunately, there really is not a heck of a lot anybody can do to avoid the largest prices in the post-college graduates' lives.

Insurance, food, and alcohol are crazy expensive and there is no sign of them going down any time soon.

Even worse, going without one or too much with another will just end up increasing your cash flow out! Just to be safe, quickly find yourself an old billionaire, prostitute yourself to him, and then never worry about money again. That's what I do. I have the syphilis scars as proof!

## AMC Weekend Listings



### 17 Again

Fri. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:20, 8:00, 10:30

### Crank High Voltage

Fri. 5:10, 7:40, 10:00  
Sat. 5:10, 7:40, 10:00  
Sun. 5:10, 7:40, 10:00

### Fast & Furious

Fri. 5:00, 7:30, 10:15  
Sat. 5:00, 7:30, 10:15  
Sun. 5:00, 7:30, 10:15

### Monsters vs. Aliens

Fri. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

### Observe and Report

Fri. 4:40, 7:10, 9:40  
Sat. 4:40, 7:10, 9:40  
Sun. 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

### State of Play

Fri. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10  
Sat. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10  
Sun. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

### Hannah Montana: The Movie

Fri. 4:30, 7:00, 9:50  
Sat. 4:30, 7:00, 9:50  
Sun. 4:30, 7:00, 9:50



## How to get a girl in five ways...and keep her

By Rachel Jaye  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

Men, boys, gentleman: some words of wisdom from me to you. Wow, where to begin. Let's start with how to charm a lady. Yes, we are ladies, not "chicks," not "dudes," LA-DIES. A way to a girl's heart is simple. Here are some little tricks of the trade to remember if you're ever really stuck in a bind. A witty acronym: I(introduce), B(Be yourself), E(everywhere), E(évíte), P(penis). IBEEP. Is that hard? I think they are pretty obvious, but for those of you out there who are pretty slow, here goes a little more in depth description.

**Introduce** - Make yourself known. State the obvious. Name, hometown, etc. Yes, it sounds like a chat room, but when you're in person it is much less creepy - trust me.

**Be yourself** - Let her know what you're interested in, hear what she likes, let the interests mesh! A good way to a girl's heart is taking an interest in what she likes, but also teaching her something about what YOU care about (example: Teach her about baseball if it's something you love, and maybe go see a show at the CA if she's into theater? Equality? I think so! ).

**Everywhere** - Okay, this may sound a bit stalkerish, but hear me out. Find little ways to casually "bump" into her. Especially if you're at the beginning stages of your pursuit. Academic row, GQ, and the front lawn are all prime locations.

**E-vite** - One word: Facebook. 'Nuff said - invite her to events on campus? Yeah! Acapella concerts and Relay for Life here we go!

**Penis** - Yes. You read correctly. Keep it in check boys. Mind over matter. MHM!

Now, see? I bet there are some of you who were already following IBEEP, but didn't even realize it! For those of you who are single, that's great! Have fun, meet some nice women, play the field. However, don't play with a girl's heart, people. That is just NOT cool. If you're in a relationship with a fellow mule, CONGRATS! Treat your girlfriend to a swipe at the Garden Room, or a ride on the shuttle, take her off campus for a picnic when the weather gets nicer. But this advice goes out to all of you Muhlenberg men. Listen up. No matter what, just be yourself. Although you might think that's lame, and don't really care what I have to say, don't try

to impress. And please, for the love of G-d, if you meet a nice girl, and she seems remotely interested, but you're not so keen on her in an "emotional" sense, don't f\*\*\* with her or her best friend for that matter - gross. Act naturally and things might just happen. A drunken screw on Saturday night after Sig Ep doesn't count. But if a drunken hook-up is your "natural" state, then more power to you, just stay away from me! Guys, here's something that has recently come up on my radar: if you are trying to get to a girl's heart, do not talk about your bodily functions. Sure, a little burp or flatulation are cute now and then, but until you feel really comfortable around your new female friend, don't delt it, because then she will have smelt it.

A way to charm her? Say it's a rainy Tuesday afternoon and you know your little lady has been having a bad day. Instead of spending lunch with your "butt buddy," invite her over to your dorm for a little rendezvous before she's whisked off to homework land. NO, men, I do not mean a quickie. Share some snacks, watch a bit of a movie, or just let her vent to you what's on her mind. It's hard for a guy to pay attention for more than five minutes, but do try, ok? Now guys, I know these sound pretty hokey and you don't want to dance and sing all about what I'm preaching. But a little love never hurts. Whether you're just trying to charm a new "chick" you spotted down academic row, or a little cutie in the GQ, open up your eyes!

There are plenty of nice women on this campus, and if you have tried once or twice and it didn't work, there are more fish in the sea buddy. Just be cool.

Oh and by the way, bringing your friends on dates is not OK.

Good luck!

## Excerpt from The Handbook for the Sexually Conscience-Smitten

By Kevin Tomasura  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

The place: Academic Row. The time: a placid April morning where the morning chill still resides. A serene sight of beauty uncorrupted by the presence of any of its beholders. Today, as on all other days, this thin strip of concrete and grass is deserted, silent but for the occasional tumbling of the occasionally misplaced tumbleweed.

But wait - when all seemed sure to be true, expectations are defied, and an indiscernable dot appears upon the hazy horizon. A person. Half-clothed and consumed even still in a lovely post-coital haze. We have seen this type before: a creature indeligious to these parts. A nocturnal half-breed in fact, of the genus Muhlenbergi and the species Shamus. She is performing her own version of the classical collegiate post-mating call: the walk of shame.

The walk of shame: a timeless mark of the American scholastic experience, and an indelible scar upon the pride of those who perform it. Here within the wild tundra that is Muhlenberg, this is a common sight, celebrated by locals almost daily, and yet, this right of passage nevertheless is one of apparent degradation. It hangs heavily upon the conscience of he who walks its line, and for reasons still unknown. In hopes of curing this viral ail spurred from ales of nights before, I propose a solution; a way to avoid the shame derived from passing the person who you regret not JUST passing out with.

It is never easy to stare into the eyes of person who you think is the person you might have possibly "done" last night, particularly because your eyes get dilated when all the lights go on. Also, because the person you think you thought you might have done is not the person you thought you wanted to do, or in other words: they're ugly.

Despite this simple unavoidable truth, there is a truth just the same but of the kind that protects you.

This simple truth is that thought they might have eyes (you probably didn't even have the mind to check), you don't have to ever acknowledge that fact. The real solution to your problems is drawn from the intelligence that you so clearly lacked just a few hours ago.

The cell phone. The head nod. The shoe tie. These are all tricks of the trade, and the trade in this case is a little falsified ignorance for your dignity. So here's the situation: you're walking down the row, doing your favorite thing: puzzles. You are sorting out the fragmented pieces of your night, and connecting far too many dots with a certain somebody. As if on cue, Joe Somebody appears down near Moyer (don't worry, all of the names have been altered for safety purposes). With the eyes of an eagle you spot this potential threat, and you begin to take evasive action. Here are your options.

The classically non-classy approach: whip out your cell phone. Pretend to text, actually text, play funky town if you have musical buttons, it matters not. As long as your eyes are glued to that piece of plastic, the whole world doesn't have to exist at all. As the boogie passes, looking for but a glance, you'll be safely protected behind the soft glow of your most useful and handy awkward avoiding tool.

For low budget solutions, buy a cell phone that's filled with candy, it's one dollar and no start up fees. The "that's my class approach": simply change your major on the spot and head into Trumbower for this hour's Chem class. Get lost in a sea of students and hope to god that just because you guys might have had chemistry last night, he doesn't have chem class right now.

The Obliterator: a personal fave. If your target happened to enjoy themselves last night this is a must try and, best of all, it's simple. All this approach requires is a little verbal flair. If their name is Katie then say hi to their roommate Ginger. If their name is Scott, say hi to James. And of course, if their name is Jon, don't say hi at all. With this tactic, the hopeful mind of your newest buddy will be crushed along with their heart and all their dreams.

### Battle of the Sexes

## Write for Life!

Email:

ab237236@muhlenberg.edu

or

bl238155@muhlenberg.edu



# This week on campus

# This week in history

Thurs. Apr. 16

Poet Stephen Dunn

- 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. in the Trexler Library, A Level
- Dunn, a Pulitzer Prize recipient, will give a reading of his work
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Grace Gardella at x3311 or ggardella@muhlenberg.edu

Comedian Steve Hofstetter

- 10:00 – 11:00 p.m. in Seegers Great Room
- Come laugh with Steve Hofstetter who has been seen on ESPN, CW, and VH1 and is the original columnist for collegehumor.com
- There is a \$2 suggested donation to benefit YouthAids
- For more information, contact Bev MacEwan at macewan@muhlenberg.edu

Fri., Apr. 17

National Stress Out Day Carnival

- 1:00 – 4:25 p.m. on the Front Lawn
- Come relieve your stress while reducing the stigma around mental health disorders
- Play dough, popcorn, balloon animals, Frisbee, entertainment, give-a-ways, fruit snacks, and Dunkaroos
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Christian Werkmeister at cw235820@muhlenberg.edu

Student Performers at The Red Door

- 10:00 p.m. – Midnight in Seegers Red Door
- Come and enjoy the following performers:
  - 10:00 - Matt Dunne
  - 10:30 - Carolyn Martin and Steve Epting
  - 11:15 - Emily
  - 12:00 - Grant Harris
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Bev MacEwan at x3958

Sat. Apr. 18

The 11th Annual Henry Awards

- 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Garden Room
- This event honors outstanding students, faculty, and staff
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Amanda Palmer at ap236210@muhlenberg.edu

Rocky Horror Picture Show

- 11:55 p.m. – 2:00 a.m. in Seegers Red Door
- Enjoy the show
- Come in your favorite costumes
- Free admission
- For more information, contact Leanne Hill at x3657

Sun. Apr. 19

Plain White T's Concert

- 7:00 – 11:00 pm in Memorial Hall
- Enjoy the main concert with special guests Danger Radio and Single File
- Doors open at 6:00 pm
- Tickets are available at the Student Life Office (Students - \$5, Staff - \$10, Public - \$15)
- For more information, contact Leanne Hill at x3657

On April 16, 2007, a massacre at Virginia Tech University occurred. It was the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history. The gunman, Seung-Hui Cho, shot 32 people to death and injured 23 others before committing suicide. The massacre promoted rapid changes in Virginia law that had allowed Cho, to purchase handguns without detection by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). The massacre also led to the passage of the first major federal gun control measure in more than 13 years. The victims ranged from an 18-year-old freshman to a 76-year-old professor and Holocaust survivor, who risked his life to save the lives of the students in his classroom.

On April 17, 1924, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) Studios was formed from a merger of Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures, and the Louis B. Mayer Company. MGM is tied for the fifth-oldest movie studio in history with Columbia Pictures. This year, MGM will celebrate its 85th anniversary. MGM produced such classics as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Gone With the Wind*, and *Singin In the Rain*. MGM also produced the recent films *Ben-Hur*, *Titanic* and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. In 2008, MGM announced that it would release full-length films on YouTube.

On April 18, 1906, San Francisco suffered a major earthquake at a magnitude of 7.8 on the Richter scale. The rupture occurred on the San Andreas Fault, but shaking was felt from Oregon to Los Angeles and as east as central Nevada. The earthquake and the resulting fire is remembered as one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history. Over 3,000 people died and 300,000 people were left homeless. The earthquake was the basis of the 1936 MGM movie *San Francisco*, which starred Clark Gable, Jeanette Macdonald, and Spenser Tracy, who recieved an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor in a Leading Role. The economic cost was equivalent to \$5.62 billion in 2008 dollars.

On April 19, 1987, *The Simpsons* premiered as a short cartoon sketch on *The Tracey Ullman Show*. After a three-season run, the sketch was developed into a half-hour prime time show, becoming the first Fox series to land in the Top 30 ratings in a season. Since its debut in prime time on December 17, 1989, the show has broadcast 436 episodes and the twentieth season began airing on September 28, 2008. The sketch cartoon inspired a full-length feature film in 2007, which grossed \$526.2 million worldwide. Since its inception, *The Simpsons* won 24 Emmy Awards and many others. Time Magazine named it the 20th century's best television series. The show is the longest-running American sitcom, the longest-running animated program, and as of 2008 is tied with *Gunsmoke* as the longest running American primetime entertainment series.

On April 20, 1999, there was a massacre at Columbine High School, in Littleton, CO. Students Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold killed 13 people and injured 24 others before committing suicide. It is the fourth deadliest school shooting in U.S. history and the deadliest for an American high school. The victims ranged from a 16-year-old student to a 47-year-old teacher. The massacre provoked debates regarding gun control laws, the effect of gun violence on youth, and violent films, music, and video games. This year will be ten years since the massacre.

On April 21, 1989, protests broke out in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China. Around 100,000 students gathered in the square to commemorate the death of Chinese reform leader, Hu Yaobang, who wanted to see a collapse of communist governments around the world. The official death toll according to the Chinese government was between 200 and 300, but the Chinese Student Association and the Chinese Red Cross puts the death toll at 2,000 to 3,000. Following the violence, the government conducted widespread arrests to suppress protesters and their supporters. The violent suppression of the peaceful protest caused widespread international condemnation of the Chinese government.

On April 22, 1970, Earth Day was first celebrated. Earth Day is intended to inspire awareness and appreciation for the earth's environment. Earth Day was first celebrated on the March equinox by the United Nations, a tradition that was founded by peace activist John McConnell. The current Earth Day tradition was founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson as an environmental learning experience. Earth Day Network's international network reaches over 17,000 organizations in 174 countries. Earth Day is the only event celebrated simultaneously around the globe by people of all backgrounds, faiths, and nationalities.

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Muhlenberg College Hillel and MUFJ (Mules United For Israel) want to thank the over 500 members of the Muhlenberg campus community who signed the statement of support for Israel as seen below as part of our t-shirt drive.



*We the undersigned are committed to the support of Israel as a Jewish and Democratic State with secure and recognized borders and as a member of the family of free nations. As America's strongest ally in the Middle East we support Israel's right to defend itself. Now it is our time to support Israel and the U.S. Israel relationship.*







# IM Softball power rankings



## Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

As the weather outside attempts to stay warm, Intramural Softball has swung into full-gear. In a season where quickness rivals only Spring Break, we have sadly reached the midway point. In honor of the mid-season, the committee of one has produced the first and last power rankings of the season, as well as a few midseason awards. And yes, like a coward, there is a tie atop the power rankings.

### T-1. (Tie) Team Wish

The defending runner-ups have cruised in their first two games, blowing out 2 opponents who were projected to be championship contenders. The defensive outfield leads this team, with seniors Dave Mazzola and Jay Rattino leading the defensive charge. If senior Julie DeLaurentis can continue her torrid hitting streak, Team Wish just may add another title to their impressive career resumes.

### T-1. (Tie) Babareeba

Through two games, this offensive juggernaut has proved superior to both of its opponents. With Jake "Bambino" Floyd leading the charge, in two shortened games the Babareebas have put up over 20 runs

combined. However a large question mark remains, however, in regards to what will happen when this team finally plays in a tight game. But as of now, they appear to be on a collision course with Team Wish for ultimate softball glory.

### 3. Kon Tiki

The defending champions drop down a spot due to the "Wrestle Mania" factor; essentially because they haven't played a game in weeks. A sloppy opening game win raises question marks about the future of this team. This rowdy bunch is not the same team from last season, as the departure of Pete Bennet has left a major void in their lineup and defense. But as long as sophomore Kristen Galgano and senior Joe Gogel can remained focused on the game and not each other, Kon Tiki, with returning Cy Young winner Geoff Kelleman, is still a team to watch out for.

### 4. The O's

After only one game, this late addition team made a loud splash with a complete dismantling of the Silver Bullets. With the off-season addition of senior Brad Auerbach, this spirited group leads the "second

tier" of contenders. With only one game under their belts however their softball inexperience may be their Achilles' heel.

### 5. The MonStars

Despite being blown out by Team Wish, this group still holds the fifth spot in our rankings. Led by sophomore shortstop Dave Knapp, this group has a solid mix of power and speed that will cause problems for many teams. Sophomore Spencer Josephs, a preseason pick for player of the year, has been a serious disappointment, and the distracting attitude of sophomore Jon Liberty has hurt the team as well.

### Mid-season Awards:

Silver Slugger- Jake Floyd  
Golden Glove- Dave Mazzola  
Biggest Disappointment- The Fuzzy Bunnies

### Playoff Prediction:

Semi's: Babareeba over Kon Tiki, 14-8

Wish over O's, 19-10

Finals: Wish over Babareeba, 16-11.

Did you know?

Boxing became a legal sport in 1909.

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Muhlenberg  
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Team Babareeba posing after a landmark win.



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Alyssa Bruckner throws a no-no

By Courtney N. Brown  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Mules' Softball Team had a record-breaking double header on Wed., Mar. 31st. The Mules played against the Dickinson Red Devils at home and swept the series with finals of 3-0 for both games.

Sophomore Alyssa Bruckner pitched the Mules' first no hitter in 19 years. Although Bruckner walked one batter, she still struck out five Red Devils, including the last two batters of the game with runners on second and third base. Coming off a shaky start to the season, Bruckner only allowed one ball to travel out of the infield, not to mention that the only runners who made it past first did not do so until the 7th inning.

Sophomore Ashley Brewer helped her fellow pitcher by striking out eight in the opening game, as well as scoring a run in the 3rd inning. Other Mules who helped in the runs column during the two Centennial Conference victories were senior RiRi Ferrigno, junior Jenna Van Waalwijk, and senior Samantha Crist, who doubled in all three runs in the 1st inning of the 2nd game.

Since then, the Mules have landed themselves with a winning record at 14-11, 8-2 in the Centennial Conference. A year ago, Dickinson's Red Devils finished 2nd in the Centennial Conference, but this year they have lost twice to the Mules. Check out this week's sports schedule for the Mules future softball schedule.



Sophomore Alyssa Bruckner no-hit the Red Devils, as the Mules sent them back to Carlisle with two losses.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MUHLENBERG WEBSITE

## Eastern Conference Quarterfinal Playoff preview

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

4. Pittsburgh Penguins vs. 5. Philadelphia Flyers:  
4. Pittsburgh Penguins

### Why they will win:

New head coach Dan Bylsma has instilled a new confidence into the Penguins. They have a good mix of players, the young and talented Crosby and Malkin, along with some experienced veterans, including Bill Guerin and Hal Gill.

They are basically just as talented as they were last season, and are now playing like they were last postseason.

### Why they will lose:

This team has seemed to be missing something ever since Marian Hossa left the team on July 1, 2008. Bill Guerin was acquired at the deadline, but no other moves were made in order to help this ailing team.

True, they are playing extraordinarily well as of recent, but no one knows if they will be able to keep it up for sure.

### X-Factor:

Blocked Shots. The Penguins are one of the few teams this season with excess of 1,000 blocked shots. If they can keep that up, they will take a lot of pressure off Marc-Andre Fleury, who clearly has not been all that he was cracked up to be, at least for this year.

The Pens can prevent numerous shots per game from going through, which in return gives them a much better chance of winning.

### How they can be beat:

Having seen this similar Penguins' team more than most other teams in the league, I see weaknesses often in the Pittsburgh squad. Most notably, teams must learn to get into the heads of Malkin and Crosby.

Crosby can be upset by shoving him around a bit, but Malkin, you need to be smart with. Simply checking him will not work, but perhaps a team

can shadow him a la Wayne Gretzky to prevent the league's point leader from doing anything.

### Did you know:

In games that either Malkin or Crosby fail to record a point, the Penguins are 7-19.

### Stat Leaders:

Evgeni Malkin, 35 goals  
Evgeni Malkin, 78 assists

### Goalie Statistics:

Marc-Andre Fleury- 35-18-7, 2.67 GAA, .912 Sv%, 4 SO  
Mathieu Garon- 8-9-0, 3.11 GAA, .894 Sv%, 0 SO

### 5. Philadelphia Flyers

#### Why they will win:

The Flyers are the deepest offensive team in the NHL. They are the only team in the league with six 25-goal scorers; Jeff Carter, Simon Gagne, Mike Richards, Scott Hartnell, Mike Knuble, and Joffrey Lupul.

The Flyers are one of the most dangerous teams in the league, simply because anyone can score at anytime. Opponents need to be aware for a full sixty minutes if they hope to defeat Philadelphia.

#### Why they will lose:

This team has struggled from the onset with consistency. While opening the season with an 0-3-3 record, they have had numerous losing streaks throughout the season, capped off by numerous winning streaks.

The Flyers cannot expect to win in the playoffs playing hot and cold. They need to be consistently on fire, or simply bail out right

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Serving the Muhlenberg College Community Since 1883

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009

# National Stress Out Day Carnival

## A great success

By Jillian Bevacqua  
NEWS EDITOR

Fri., Apr. 17 was what many students would call a perfect day on the College campus. First off, as a Friday, it marked the end of another stressful week of end-of-semester class work, and the sunny, 70 degree weather inspired many students to spend the day outdoors.

Active Minds, a new club on campus which is present at over 190 college campuses across the country, the ideal perfect-day activity: A National Stress Out Day Carnival, which expertly combined the outdoors with the ability to relieve stress of students across campus.

National Stress Out Day is an event created and sponsored by the national organization of Active Minds and co-sponsored by the Anxiety Disorders Association of America, which established the week of Apr. 13-17 as the time period for the 4th annual National Stress Out Day. The day and the carnival, which was sponsored by Active Minds and the Psychology Club, was created in the hopes of giving students multiple opportunities to relieve their end-of-semester stresses as well as present information about anxiety and related disorders.

The event was held on the front lawn, and participants couldn't have asked for more perfect weather. Students lounged on the lawn to watch performances from In Accord, Dynamics, and

MIA and participated in activities like coloring and make your own stress balls, "pop-away cancer" at a Colleges Against Cancer table with bubble wrap, and playing with everything from play-dough and water balloons to hula hoops and jump ropes. All of the left over play dough and play dough toys, coloring materials, jump ropes and hula hoops were donated after the event to The Caring Place in Allentown.

EnAct also had a table for tie-dyeing and selling products made from entirely recycled materials, and a net was set up for volleyball or badminton games. Active Minds' Founding President Kelly Frazee '11, remarked on the overwhelming success of the event and the club's hopes to make it even bigger next year. She and the rest of the members of Active Minds have hopes of getting even more student groups involved to perform, such as dance teams and more a capella groups.

"I am overjoyed by how well received the event was, especially since both Active Minds and the Psychology Club are new student clubs on campus this year," said Frazee of the carnival. She



Students relaxing and making their own stress balls with sand and balloons.

PHOTO BY LEANN KAHRER

continued to express her gratitude to the students who were in attendance, saying "the event would not have been as successful without the support that was received from the student body."

Students interested in getting further information about Active Minds can see last week's issue of the Weekly for Frazee's Op/Ed on the event, or can email [bergactiveminds@gmail.com](mailto:bergactiveminds@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Alpha Tau Omega

### Alpha Iota chapter to re-colonize in Fall 2009

By Kelly Frazee  
NEWS EDITOR

The Alpha Iota chapter of the Alpha Tau Omega National Fraternity was established in 1881 making it among the earliest Greek organizations at the College. The Alpha Iota chapter was in continuous operation from 1881 through 2000, when a series of violations of College policy led to the loss of recognition. But in the fall of 2009, the national fraternity will begin the process of re-establishing this chapter. This is due largely to a dedicated alumni base in conjunction with the organization's revitalized commitment to academics and leadership development.

"ATO has had a strong alumni base over the years, and we were impressed with the leadership of the group that is spearheading the re-colonization efforts," said President Helm. An agreement between the College and the national fraternity was established in late March after the organization responded to the College's invitation to participate in its Greek life expansion process. The Committee on Greek Life made the recommendation for re-colonization after assessment of materials from the fraternity. The Committee also hosted a site

visit by national office staff and local alumni.

Alpha Tau Omega will begin the re-colonization with the traditional Fall Recruitment Week at the College. Recruitment Week for fall 2009 is Sept. 6 through Sept. 12. Interested men will be required to register for recruitment, participate in recruitment week and in addition to considerations regarding character, leadership and service, men chosen for the colony class will be required to have a GPA of at least 2.80.

The national fraternity owns the chapter house which is located at 2302 Chew Street. Plans are for the colony to complete the requirements of receiving a charter and to demonstrate effective organizational efforts before the chapter house is offered to the members. The earliest this would occur would be the fall of 2011 but in the meantime, the colony will go through a fraternity education process, which will enable them to meet the College and national accreditation requirements.

The addition of ATO will bring the total number of active fraternities and sororities on campus to eight.

Information Courtesy of Muhlenberg College Public Relations

*"...we were impressed with the leadership of the group [ATO] that is spearheading the re-colonization."*



# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Luanne Linares  
Editor-in-Chief

Victoria Davis  
Executive Editor

## Letter to the Editor

### And we're done!

Tonight, we write our final editorial as editors of The Weekly. We have learned many things since our first day on the job. Some things were learned the hard way, bringing tears and extreme aggravation, but in the end all those long Tuesday nights were well worth it. We are proud of the paper we have produced these last couple of years, and we are confident in the staff that will take over next year. We have covered important events such as the election, Obama and Biden's visits to campus, and all the changes at Muhlenberg along the way such as renovations and new faculty.

What we will miss most, though, is the camaraderie of the newsroom. Every Tuesday night for the past few years, we have worked, laughed, and posted funny quotes around the office of everything ridiculous coming out of our mouths. The importance of having a staff that gets along should not be underestimated, and we have been very lucky that our Tuesday night group not only works well together, but actually enjoys the process.

But let's face it, the long hours took their toll at times. Endlessly staring at a computer screen, editing the same sentence for an hour (and still not quite figuring out what's wrong), and being meticulous about layout has led us right to the brink of insanity. Thankfully, we always had the Campus Safety Notes to pull us back from the edge and give us a good laugh.

We loved every minute. We wouldn't have put up with all the ups and downs for this long if we didn't. We've seen staff members come and go, and have witnessed the evolution of the paper. As Editor-in-Chief and Executive Editor, we slowly figured out that we can take the paper in whichever direction we choose. Whenever a question was asked, we used to respond with a "No, that's not how it's always been done." Slowly but surely, we realized that the better answer was, "Why not?" And we feel the paper has benefitted because of it.

We are leaving the paper in capable hands. The new Executive Board has met every challenge we've thrown at them so far, and we know they will continue to improve the paper in every way they can. After tonight though, it's all you. It's been good fun. But seriously, we are checking out as of this evening. Good luck next year, and stock up on some Advil and caffeine, you're gonna need it.

Dear Editor:

I found the Sports section in the April 16 edition of the Weekly to be severely lacking.

Under a banner that had the word SPORTS over the Mule logo, there was exactly one article on Muhlenberg varsity sports. There was a long article on intramurals, and the only other article in the section – by far the longest of the three – was on professional sports.

To me, it is completely inappropriate to take space away from Muhlenberg varsity athletes, who represent our College at schools throughout the region on a daily basis, and give it to a professional sport. This is supposed to be the Muhlenberg Weekly, not the National Hockey League Weekly.

The information on Muhlenberg sports is no less readily available on the Web than it is for professional sports; there is just less coverage, which only underscores the need for the staff of the campus newspaper to report on its fellow students.

And it's not like there's nothing to write about. In the week prior to this issue, an athlete on the Muhlenberg women's track and field team tied for the best pole vault in Division III this year, one from the men's team broke a school record, and the women's lacrosse team tied the school record for conference wins in a season. Additionally, the women's tennis team is on a winning streak, and the men's lacrosse team is in a dogfight for a playoff spot in the toughest conference in Division III.

Many years ago, I was the sports editor for a weekly newspaper at a college very similar to Muhlenberg. I understand the challenges, from not having enough writers, to having writers who don't turn in their assignments, to receiving articles that require so much editing that it is almost like starting from scratch. But despite the challenges, the position comes with a responsibility to manage content that is appropriate for a school newspaper, and I feel the Weekly did a poor job of this.

Sincerely,  
Mike Falk

Sports Information Director

### Represent Muhlenberg Sports

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Rachel Jaye's article "How to get a girl in five ways...and keep her" is guilty of what I like to call 'accidental sexism.' The article, while I'm sure not written to be intentionally offensive, implies that men are useless imbeciles who think with their penises and women are docile, emotional princesses who don't enjoy sex, just a good cuddle. When did it start being 1955 again? As a woman who dates other women, I can say with confidence that all women are definitely not the same. And as a woman who has also dated men, I can tell you that all men are definitely not the same. A way to a girl's heart is not 'simple' because girls are not 'simple' and neither are boys. Ideas like these are what keep women from being president and stay-at-home fathers from being taken seriously.

Sexism, as this article reveals, often goes unnoticed. Nobody really thinks they're being sexist. We're just repeating, verbatim, the crap our parents and teachers and peers have been feeding us since we were kids. Men are from Mars, women are from Venus, and you're a fool if you think you understand the opposite sex. How else do

you think books like *He's Just Not That Into You* become bestsellers? People still believe this stuff. I'm here to tell you that you, too, can stop being a culture victim and start thinking for yourself.

Unfortunately, I don't have a witty acronym for you...just my delightful sense of humor.

### How to Spot Sexism in Several Ways...And Avoid it In the Future

Here's what's positive about Jaye's Article: 'Introduce.' A little formal or informal introduction is always underrated. 'Be Yourself.' Please be yourselves, even if that means you're a girl who's into baseball or a guy who's into theatre. 'Everywhere.' There's nothing wrong with 'accidentally running into' your soul mate in the GQ. E-vite.

Nothing wrong with that either, although it should be noted that some people let invitations sit in their facebook inbox for weeks.

Now, that being said, the rest of the article was troublesome to swallow. For one thing, the majority of the male population is capable of using their brain. The idea that men need to be reminded to keep their penis in check implies that they are all a bunch of rabid, sex-crazed hyenas hapless to their penis's will. I think at this

point if a man needs to be reminded not to think with his penis, it's a bit of a lost cause. What I also found troublesome about this article was the idea that women, apparently, do not want to just hook up with a man. If a man just seeks physical gratification, he's an asshole, because apparently everyone knows women aren't interested in physical gratification. It appears women just want to be loved. We would never use a man for sex, because that would imply we actually enjoy sex. What we really want is to talk about our feelings. And bake.

Which brings me to my final point. Say it's a rainy Tuesday afternoon. A man does not meet his 'butt buddy' in the GQ (I will try really, really hard to assume this homophobic slur was not the work of an actual homophobe), but rather chooses to invite a potential girlfriend to his room when she's feeling particularly stressed out (everyone knows women need constant attention and comfort, right?). He's supposed to offer her snacks, a movie, and a shoulder to vent on. Seriously? That sounds about as much fun as dinner at Rush Limbaugh's house. If you're just getting to know someone, you are definitely not obligated to listen while they pour out their soul and confront their childhood demons unless you are get-

SEE SEXISM  
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# What We'll Risk for Accessible Education

By Alexander Lotorto  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

On Friday morning, Apr. 10, our friends at the New School University attempted to use nonviolent civil disobedience to protest the bureaucratic red tape being erected by their president, Bob Kerrey, regarding the formation of a Socially Responsible Investing committee among other decision-making obstacles.

Instead of a proportionally civil response to the student occupation of a vacant building, President Kerrey ordered a massive demonstration of police force that included riot police dropping from helicopters, tear gas inside, macing, and beating supporters outside.

The student group responsible, New School in Exile, was formed after a sit-in in mid-December won some demands relative to the ethical concerns of students that had been ignored when using formal channels. As our representing member, I attended and entered that occupation, like I did at NYU, putting my body on the line with hundreds of students who are struggling for democracy beyond the charade of "just voting."

This time, the students released a statement we identified with as Muhlenberg students, "If tuition hikes, lack of resources, diminish-

ing student space, and a dozen other pressing university issues are inconsequential to you, that's fine - irrational, but fine. But just as our action doesn't speak for you, your apathy doesn't speak for us."

Occupying a building is only one tactic to win the goods. It's one of an infinite number of creative ways social movements have induced change throughout our history - independence, anti-slavery, anti-war, suffrage, labor rights, civil rights, anti-nuclear, anti-sweat shop, environmental defense, anti-globalization.

Like America's history, the student movement in New York has broadened our capacity at Muhlenberg to win the same and similar reforms for our college. We are and will be taken seriously.

The Student Government, with the exception of Barrie Schessler's abstention, recently voted unanimously to support the creation of a Socially Responsible Investing Committee at the College. President Helm has agreed to present it to the Board of Trustees who will be meeting on Friday, April 24th. It will be up to them to decide whether or not students, faculty, staff, and alumni can have an advisory role regarding the ethical impacts of Muhlenberg's business.

Also, Muhlenberg tuition has

gone up another \$2,000 in the midst of a massive economic crisis we are all suffering from. Workers at the college are getting laid off, the print shop employees are the most recent example. Our tuition has gone up six percent every year for the past six years, without a single student involved in reviewing the process, without "the consent of the governed."

As we apply for student loan after loan, the most fundraising for the college has been earmarked for capital investments like new buildings, not to keep tuition affordable or secure the jobs for the men and women who break their backs serving us.

On Fri. Apr. 24 at 1pm, Students for a Democratic Society will be sponsoring a student-worker rally in front of Haas where the visiting Board of Trustees and President Helm can't miss it. Our Students vs Trustees Tug-O-War will symbolize us holding decision-makers accountable at Muhlenberg and everywhere for social justice.

We will say, "No layoffs, no tuition hikes, and socially responsible investing!"

Stop building on the backs of students and workers." We will need your support. Come be powerful, have your voices heard, and have fun!

SEXISM  
FROM PAGE 2

ting  
paid to  
do so.

The idea that all women want to do is complain and all men have to do is endure their complaints is ludicrous. For all we know, a little sex is exactly what a girl wants to relieve some of her Tuesday stress. I'm not saying pounce as soon as you get someone alone, but I am saying that when we assume, we make an ass out of you and me.

My point, then, as I step off my soapbox, is this: women and men are people. People are different. What works for Sally might not work for Greg, might not work for Jane. There are no 'rules.' There is no guaranteed way to win a girl over (let's not use the word "keep," as it suggests a woman is a collectible item). If there's one thing Rachel Jaye and I agree on, it's that you should be yourself. And if that self is a bisexual football player who has no interest in a relationship but has no problem being respectful to the people they hook up with, then bless you. Just remember: making generalizations based on gender is lame and unsuccessful, so please burn your copy of *He's Just Not That Into You*. Oh, and by the way, bringing your friend on our next date is totally okay...if your friend is Megan Fox. Enjoy!

Sincerely,  
Chelsea Cee

## Muhlenberg cares for students

By Mike Bruckner  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS

While we can all agree with Alex Lotorto's hope for a more just and compassionate world, those of us who work with all the College's constituencies must also deal with facts. Unfortunately, Alex's most recent manifesto is so filled with factual misrepresentations that his conclusions cannot be trusted. He asserts that tuition has gone up by \$4,000 for next year (the increase is less than half that); that tuition has increased 6% every year for the past eight years (this year's increase is 4.6%, last year's was 5.8%); that we have raised money for buildings instead of student scholarships (the current campaign has raised \$28 million for endowed scholarships and more than \$13 million for current expenses including financial aid vs. \$32 million for buildings). Muhlenberg budgeted more than \$21.5 million for grant aid to students this year, an increase of 29% over the past five years.

This year the administration cut operating budgets (not salaries) by approximately \$350,000 to increase funds available for financial aid. In numerous communications with the campus community, President Helm has made it clear that our top two priorities are preserving student access and avoiding layoffs. This does not mean that we will ignore opportunities to make the College's operations more efficient, such as converting the current print shop to a more up-to-date copy center.

As for lack of student space, I'd argue that the planned practice and rehearsal space, and the renovations and addition to the Union are all student spaces, as well as the recent projects we've done - the Life Sports Center, the Multicultural Center and several residence halls....even Shankweiler and the New Science Building were built to serve our students.

If Alex had done his homework and approached the issues with an open mind, he would have discovered what the facts prove: that Muhlenberg has consistently put students and employees first, and intends to continue doing so.

### THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

Serving The Muhlenberg Community Since 1883

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Opinions expressed in the OP/ED section of this newspaper are solely those of the author. *The Weekly* reserves the right to edit all pieces for grammatical, spacing and legal purposes. The Editor-in-Chief has final jurisdiction on whether a Letter to the Editor or article is printed. Deadline for submission is Sunday proceeding publication by 7:00 p.m.

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# A letter from Student Gov. All campus food drive

The newly elected Muhlenberg College Student Government seeks to create a new vision of representation here at Muhlenberg. While the Student Government in the past has functioned utilizing familiar methods of governing and programming, on the whole, a deviation from this tradition is in order. The new Student Government is on a mission to increase the effectiveness of governing and to limit the amount of Student Government programming. Student Government recognizes that, in the past, this programming aspect has at times been at the expense of the representation that you, the students, deserve and would like to alleviate this issue.

*Student Government will focus on its duties as a governing body and impacting changes for students.*

Student Government will implement this new mission by focusing on its duties as a governing body and impacting changes for students. Student Government would like to do so by leaving the notion of a trustee government behind and emerge anew as proponents of stewardship.

They understand that, while a vote can win an election, it is the student behind the vote that makes the difference. A Representative's job is to hear and project your voice even when perhaps you think nobody is listening.

In order to work towards this new direction, Student Government has pledged to work towards more effective representation. Effective representation depends on one important ingredient: communication. Student Government has vowed to work harder to effectively communicate with you, but we also implore you to become proactive in this process. Student Government wants to create change that affects you directly by working on exactly what you care about. The only way to do this is to hear, from you, exactly what change you want to see on campus. Send that email you hesitated to write, voice that opinion you chose to keep quiet, make heard your silent concerns, and put forth your questions.

Sincerely,  
Muhlenberg College Student Government

Dear Campus Community,

This year not only has our economy in turmoil. In addition, the demand for food at local food banks has risen precipitously. As the article is titled, "America's Food Banks Need a Bailout," states: "... a survey conducted by Feeding America, a national hunger-relief charity (found that) of 160 food banks, 99.4 percent of them reported seeing more first-time users in 2008."

At the end of this academic semester, from the minute you read this notice to the end of finals week, the Alpha Phi Omega Community Service Fraternity is organizing an ALL CAMPUS FOOD DRIVE OF NON-PERISHABLE FOODS.

All food will go to Second Harvest, a local food bank that serves many of the smaller community food agencies. Collection boxes can be found around Seegers and in various locations around campus buildings and residence facilities.

The problem of food insecurity is increasing. Lets help, especially when people need it most!

With respect and appreciation,  
Jason Steinberg, '11

## What a year

By Adam Yu  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

This has been nothing short of an extraordinary academic year, especially in the realm of politics. The United States went through the historic 2008 Presidential and Congressional elections and experienced a major transition of power in Washington D.C. The excitement of politics made its way to Muhlenberg and our student body set the bar high in political activism and participation. One group in particular stood out this year as a rising star within the student body, the Muhlenberg College Republicans.

The College Republicans deserve some recognition, not for partisan reasons, but for their inspiring revival and success. This group had some humble beginnings and received little attention here at Muhlenberg. It is safe to say the last major scene of the College Republicans, before 2008-2009, was during the 2004 Presidential Election. After the election of a new leadership team in spring of 2008, the organization came back to life the following fall.

Since September of 2008, the Muhlenberg College Republicans have displayed their commitment to bringing their side of the political spectrum to this campus. They designed a 9/11 Memorial that honored the 2,977 lives that perished, built a mock Berlin Wall on the day the actual wall fell and symbolized the defeat of Communism, and they organized 2nd Amendment Day to educate the student body about our Constitutional rights. The College Republicans have been engaged in political activism as well. They volunteered with the McCain/Palin campaign and made phone calls, they went door-to-door with Mike Welsh, and stood at the polls handing out fliers for Charlie Dent. In addition to these events, there has been an uplifting sense of cooperation between the College Republicans and other student groups. They co-hosted the Voter Education Forum with the College Democrats and ENACT, hosted Rep. Charlie Dent with MUFI, and brought Senator Arlen Specter to speak along with the College Democrats.

The academic year of 2008-2009 has truly shown the ability of a dedicated group's ability to pull itself out of the dark and into the limelight. The College Republicans have worked hard and have made a name for them the good old-fashioned way. Hopefully their story can serve as inspiration for other students to become active.

## Pass the remote

By Dara Rosenblatt  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

Rewind. I missed that. Pause. Fast forward, we're in the wrong spot. Repeat. Yes. Repeat. Yes, that would be helpful.

Do you know when people ask you, if you had any special power, what would it be and why? Well, I would want to have the powers of a remote. Play, rewind, fast-forward, pause, record, and repeat. Let's think about this. How helpful would it be if we could rewind, look back, take a second to enjoy what is around us, appreciate everything just a little bit more? I know I sometimes need to do a double take. Rewind and then repeat. That's the way to do it.

What about the record button? Now that would be extremely useful too. Rewind to the spot you never want to forget, or that moment you laughed so hard you cried. Record. Now, that's pretty sweet.

How about different channels? Just in the community here at Muhlenberg you could have a channel that brings you a cappella music, or one that gets you to the dining area of your choice. GQ anyone? Or, you could even program in channels by classes and subjects. The options are limitless.

Do you know how much time I would spend recording, rewinding, fast-forwarding, playing? Where would I be in the present? How would I know what I was supposed to be doing if I was never in the right time? That is why we don't have super powers. If I had the ability to do all the things a remote did, I think I'd go crazy.

It is so important to live in the present. Time is precious, and especially in the middle of April, time truly flies. Absorb, and take in all that goes on around you. Become a sponge, if anything, not a remote, and soak in the memories, don't flip through them and watch the stages go by.

As a freshman, ending my first year at college, I have realized how quickly life, specifically college life, can glimmer away before your eyes. How in the heck did my first year of college go by so fast? Well, apparently it's just what happens. My parents told me it goes by too fast, but like many things, I didn't believe them.

So, that is my note. For those of you who are graduating in a few weeks, I wish you the best of luck, and I am sure that you know exactly what I am trying to say here. Just take it all in, and don't let it slip out from under the cushion.

*As a freshman ending my first year of college, I have realized how quickly college life can glimmer away before your eyes.*

For more  
Op/Ed articles, see  
**MuhlenbergWeekly.com**



# Another way to get it done

By Gail Scarsdale  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

While the article on "how to get a girl" that was written in last week's newspaper was insightful, this article hopes to give a new and different look at the social life on campus. Boys, this is for you if you do not have such a booming social life right now. This will not help you make guy friends, but hopefully this will assist you in a different approach to the dating scene on our campus. This is coming from a single girl with a different point of view on the dating situation at Muhlenberg.

Let's start with the basics: do not under any circumstance stalk us in any way, shape, or form. Let's be real- its Muhlenberg. All you have to do is sit in GQ and within ten minutes or so we will see every boy that goes here whether we want to or not. We run into you enough! Do not make it worse by seeing us all the time everyday. While some girls may be interested in that, not all of us like that. Bumping into us is not something you should plan. More than that it is not something you need to plan because it will happen anyway! We are at Muhlenberg, the place where everyone knows everyone else!

Secondly, while we are all sure you are all great, amazing, sweet and perfect boys, that is not always so attractive. If the nice guy route does not seem to be working for you, play the tough guy card a little bit. Let us chase you! It's hard to believe sometimes, but we enjoy a little bit of the chase as well. Where is the fun if you just give in? For example, come up to us and say hi, but don't give us your number right away- let

it be some fun for us, and let us think about the mystery that is who you are.

About the whole area "down there"- we know you have it. No reason to talk about its size in front of us- especially considering when we do end up with you, we will find out the truth- and no one likes a man who lies about size. Also, talking about your penis size in front of us while we eat is not appealing. It's just awkward and makes us feel like boys. We do not enjoy feeling like boys- we are girls, ladies, women, whatever you want to say. While some of us do enjoy sports, do not leave ESPN on all the time and lose the remote. It is cute that you like your sports, but after hanging out, we really do not want to be watching reruns of Sports Center over and over again.

We are not boys, nor dudes, nor people you say "hey man" to. We are girls- try and remember that while speaking to us. Even if it is just to a friend that is a girl, who knows what that could turn out to be in the end, and don't ruin your shot because you think "man" is a nice way to address a young lady.

Don't be so nice. No really. At the beginning when first trying to "get with someone" being so nice is almost putting yourself in the friend category right away. I am not saying be mean to us and call us your "woman" or "bitch" but do not make it so easy for us to get you right where we want you. It is not as fun. Let it be understood that this advice does not apply to all girls, but this is some feedback girls have been giving.

Spend time with your boys. That's attractive to

us: the fact that you have guy friends that do manly things and do not need us to always entertain you. Just because you are attracted to someone does not mean that they need to become your whole life.

We do not want you as our whole life, so do not think we should be yours. At the beginning, show us that you have other people but us around and that we do not need to babysit you and make sure you are always happy. Be happy on your own, throw around a football, have an eating contest, do whatever makes you who you are. We would hope that involves having some kind of friendship with other boys. We have girlfriends so let us be with them without making it some sort of fight. To be honest, at least at the beginning, we do like our friends more than we like you because we are just getting to know you. Give it time, we will usually come around. If not, on to the next. Don't slut yourself around. It looks bad when we do it and it looks bad when you do it, but keep the options open anyway.

This whole idea that girls want to find someone just to date, meet their parents and get married is not the full truth. Not all of us are looking for our husband right now. We are also in college and we want to have fun.

While we may want relationships more than you do at the beginning, some of us enjoy just having fun. Put the engagement ring away, relax, you are scaring us. In conclusion, remember to be yourself, just add an edge if you need. And also remember, we are people to, in the same situation you are.

**WRITE FOR OP/ED next year**

Contact: SB234499@Muhlenberg.edu

## Getting with the program

By David Eisenberg  
WEEKLY OP/ED WRITER

Recently, Republican senator Arlen Specter came to our college for a town hall meeting and remarked that you can fit all moderate Republican senators in a phone booth. When I asked about why that is the case when the American people voted for a change in direction, he said that it was because the Republican Party is run by the extreme right (he also said that the Democrats were run by the extreme left, but that's for another time), and those people are not as perceptive to change as other Americans.

He suggested that young people from both sides of the aisle should get involved in their political parties and make them moderate their messages. His implication was that unless people get involved, it will take a long time for the Republican Party to moderate its message.

Judging by the articles in last week's installment of the Weekly, however, it does not appear that young Republicans, at least ones that go here, are willing to moderate their message. Take Adam Yu's article about the United Nations. Granted, the comments from the UN Secretary General about the United States are unfitting for a man of his stature, and I can't help but be a little upset about what he said either.

However, there is a basis for Ban-ki Moon's comment about the United States. In the past eight years, we have behaved in a way that is unfitting for the world's superpower living in a global community. We have invaded countries without the approval from most of the world's countries; we have tortured civilians, many of whom are innocent and some of whom are nationals of allied countries; and we have exuded arrogance and scorn towards the international community. Regardless of whether Adam is aware of that or not, that didn't stop him from hurling childish insults at the UN and acting as arrogant and scornful towards it as our country has in the past eight years. Even though it isn't perfect, pulling out of the United Nations would send a bad message to the rest of the world, as it

does a lot of good by helping refugees, helping children through UNICEF, and by performing other actions. Ironically, Adam's statistics about the funding that the UN gets from the United States only backs up how much damage would be done to the institution by pulling out of it, making such good-natured operations nearly impossible.

Matt Cobaugh's article was equally reprehensible and ignorant of facts with regards to our standing in the global community. The fact that he refused to praise President Obama for the actions of the Marines fighting off the Somali pirates is not surprising, as Republicans have been loathe to give credit where credit to Democrats is due since the mid-'90s.

However, what really struck me about the article was how he was advocating more intrusion into other countries' affairs. Oddly enough, Republicans did not like Bill Clinton's involvement in Somalia in 1993, and yet he is calling for this in Somalia and other countries. It's as if he has been completely unaware of the consequences we've faced in similar excursions in Iraq and Afghanistan: destabilization, violence against our troops, and condemnation from the international community. We are in no position to go into Somalia with our troops stretched so thin and with much work to be done in Afghanistan and, for a year and a half at least, in Iraq.

Senator Specter seems to accept that moderation and change within the Republican Party is a long shot for the next decade, which is more than I can say about many members of his own party who are clinging on to an ideology which many Americans have rejected during last year's elections. If the party does not wish to marginalize itself, it would behoove people to change its leadership by getting active, as Senator Specter told those attending the meeting, which included some College Republicans. If the sampling of articles by Republicans in the previous edition of the Weekly is any indication, youthful Republicans are willing to ignore the past and cling to their ideology. This does not bode well for one of the two big political parties in the United States.



## Israel's double standard

By Benjamin Leffell  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

The European Union and the United Nations have routinely condemned Israel for her response to Hamas rocket fire over the last several years. The criticism reached a fever pitch after Israel's Gaza incursion in December and January 2008. According to the BBC, of the 8,600 rockets launched by Hamas against Israel since 2001, nearly 6,000 (70%) have been launched since Israel withdrew from Gaza in August 2005. Following Hamas terrorist attacks, Israel is usually advised by the European Union and the United Nations to restrain herself, but if they must, they have the right to retaliate proportionately. They never quite identify what a proportional response would be. Would a proportional Israeli response be to launch 6,000 rockets into the Gaza strip? Hardly.

Thomas Aquinas' *Just War* discussed the issue of proportionality and explained that the anticipated benefits of waging a war must be proportionate to the expected evils or harms of the enemy's actions. Suicide bombers and rockets aimed at school children and hospitals, should rank high on the list of anticipated evil. Unfortunately, one must conclude that it seems the United Nations and the European Union prefer to determine proportionality by counting dead bodies, rather than by assessing the goals that terrorist attacks are designed to accomplish and the means they employ to that end.

The criticism directed toward Israel can only be described as a double standard. The term "double standard" describes an ethically indefensible condition, when a certain behavior is judged acceptable for one group, but as a failing for another. Such double standards are unjust and hypocritical because they violate modern legal jurisprudence where all parties should stand equal before the law, regardless of social class, religious beliefs, wealth, rank, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or other distinctions.

The repeated condemnations directed against the Israeli government for defending its citizens, coupled with the refusal to confront Hamas terrorist attacks, amounts to a tacit approval of terrorism by the EU and the UN. Such a response is shocking, especially in Europe's case. The British and Spanish governments both harshly condemned terrorism after attacks by Islamic fundamentalists within their own borders in July 2005, and March 2004 respectively. This begs the question, why is the double standard applied to Israel? Has the EU developed a pro-radical Islamic agenda? Unlikely. Are seeds of historical anti-Semitism in Europe still pertinent today? Unfortunately, this seems to be the most likely explanation.

Before declaring Europe a bastion for anti-Semitic Israel-bashers, it is first necessary to clarify the oft-blurred line between legitimate and fair criticism of Israel, as a member state of the United Nations, and the unjust criticism of a Jewish state. Let's be clear, Israel's government like any other government, must be responsible for her decisions and their outcomes. For example, it is not anti-Semitic to criticize the Israeli government if Israeli-Arab cities do not receive the same municipal funding as Jewish-Israeli cities. The government might be criticized when it is unable to conclude labor negotiations with its public school professors: it could fairly be condemned if it intentionally injures or kills civilians instead of, or in addition to, enemy combatants in armed conflict. But it is intellectually and morally indefensible to refuse to apply those same standards to the other parties in this conflict. This double standard is in fact a form of colonialism, because it is based on the implicit assumption that one cannot expect a high level of moral (Western) behavior from the other countries and polities that confront Israel because of their inherent inferiority.

The efforts of politicians and political commentators to uphold the Geneva Convention must be respected, but if one country must defend itself by a set of international laws, then all must be held to the same standard. Unfortunately, the double standard has routinely been applied to the Israeli military alone. For example, the Sri Lankan government's recent actions against the Tamil Tigers resulted in the death of close to three thousand innocent civilians, and over 100,000 civilians were left trapped in Tamil strongholds. These losses are on an order of magnitude greater than the civilian casualties in Gaza, but where is the global outcry? The world also remained silent when Russia brutally demonstrated its military ruthlessness in Chechnya and again in the Georgia/South Ossetian region. That conflict was raw aggression by a military titan directed at a dramatically weaker autonomous state. When Lebanon brought a terrorist regime (Hizbullah, the same group that massacred United States Marines in 1983) into its government and even allowed them veto power over the parliament, the world was curiously and pathetically silent once again. Possibly, the most telling example of the double standard, is that a Spanish court is considering prosecuting Israeli leaders for war crimes. Meanwhile, with the sole exception of Sudanese leader Omar Hassan al-Bashir, not a single major Islamic political figure responsible for promoting or committing terrorist provocations, is under legal threat in the EU. For instance, terror-sponsoring and genocidal advocate Mahmoud Ahmadinejad travels freely.

No government should be free of criticism, but all governments must stand equal in the eye of the law and the critic. The fact that Israel is routinely criticized for defending her citizens, and other governments are not, is not due to a lack of transgressions by other countries, but must be attributed to the increasingly un-veiled anti-Semitism that infects many of today's foremost political institutions.

## Winning isn't everything

By Benjamin Levine  
LIFE! EDITOR

Our parents often told us when we were little that winning isn't everything. I, like most people, accepted this as

another-lame thing which our parents tell us to make us feel better when we are sad. To me, "winning isn't everything" was the verbal equivalent of taking me to get some ice cream after losing a baseball game or getting a slice of pizza after a soccer game. I remember sitting there in my mud soaked uniform, after a tough game, at the point of tears, and all the consolation that could be offered was "winning isn't everything." Wow, thanks Aristotle. That is up there with money can't buy you everything. We pretend it can't, but deep down we know it really can.

But the older you get, the more you realize that winning isn't everything. Championships come and go. You sit there staring at the television, watching your team jump up and down with looks of utter delight on their faces, and you feel the same euphoria that they are feeling. How long does that feeling stay with you? The satisfaction of a championship is as fleeting as a joint at a Grateful Dead concert: it's not going to last! Most of the time, a championship was expected. Most fans go into a season expecting nothing less of their team than a title. Almost all of the time, by the time your team has made it into the championship game, or series, it is expected that they will win. Rarely, your team is a complete long shot, no chance in hell, underdog. If this is the case, your joy may last longer. That is, if it finally hits you that they actually won. Regardless, the euphoria will inevitably abandon you within a week of seeing your team win. What's left? Bragging rights? It is truly a fantastic feeling when your friend brings up how his team is better than yours. Then, you coyly ask, "who won it all last year?" This will make him quieter than C-level on a Sunday morning. While pouring salt in his wound is fun, and expected of any true friend, it can only give you so much happiness. Before you know it, it will be the off-season and that championship, which was so inspiring and made you feel so happy at the time, will just be a memory.

Winning a big game yourself is also a great moment, but will not last as long as you'd like. Whether you won a baseball championship in elementary school (this humble author) or won something that people outside of your extended family watched, you are aware of how fleeting winning can be. Interviews with professional athletes after a championship always betray that they remember very little from the time of the final play to the next morning. What champions remember is how they played. You remember that tackle, or that home-run, or that three-point shot at the buzzer. It truly is important to live in the now. Ralph Waldo Emerson said: "With the past, I have nothing to do; nor with the future. I live now." Next time you're watching your team or playing the game yourself, don't look at the score and receive your sole happiness from the win/loss column. Try to watch every play and enjoy it for what it's worth. In the end, a game is just one in the millions you will see.

The memory of the play, or how an athlete plays, is what is important. Appreciate the apparent miracles that we are lucky enough to see and the greats we are lucky enough to cheer on, because some day they will just be another name in the long list of greats. Professional sports as we know it are relatively young. In 200 years, who is going to care who won the World Series in 2008? I defy you to tell me who won the 1932 World Series and that was only 77 years ago. What lives on is the spirit of the game. The sport itself is just an organism and every game, player, or even play, is a calorie which the sport consumes to grow into the great being that is an idea; not even a thing. A true fan of the game can close their eyes and imagine the crack of a bat on a sunny day in July, or the sound of crunching and cracking of football players steaming into each other as you sit in the stands bundled up on a cold November day, or the scrape of the ice then the boom of a skater flying into the boards in an unnaturally warm arena. It is the game itself that is important; not the individual games. The athletes we should admire are those who understand the game and their place in the game. They should be just as big of fans of the game as we are. They are the ones who play through the pain because they know that in sports, like life, time doesn't wait for us. They seize the moment, and live it, and are humbled by it.

So, if you find out that Kevin Garnett is going to be out for the playoffs and you're sitting in your room wondering why God would play such a cruel joke or you find yourself in a McDonalds covered in mud on the verge of tears, remember that winning isn't everything. It's how you play the game. As Al Pacino's Tony D'Amato says: "On any given Sunday you're gonna win or you're gonna lose. The point is - can you win or lose like a man?"



# TKE house renovations an asset for Theater, Dance, and Music Departments

By Kelly Frazee  
NEWS EDITOR

The former Tau Kappa Epsilon house will undergo extensive renovations. According to David Rabold, Capital Projects Manager at the College, the renovations

will most likely start sometime next year and will take approximately one year to complete. The space is designed to be used by Theater, Dance, and Music departments because the departments are out of space and as they continue to grow, the College wants to support them. Rabold also noted that, "Utilizing an existing, abandoned building fits into our focus on sustainability and the location works rather well with the programs planned for the space."

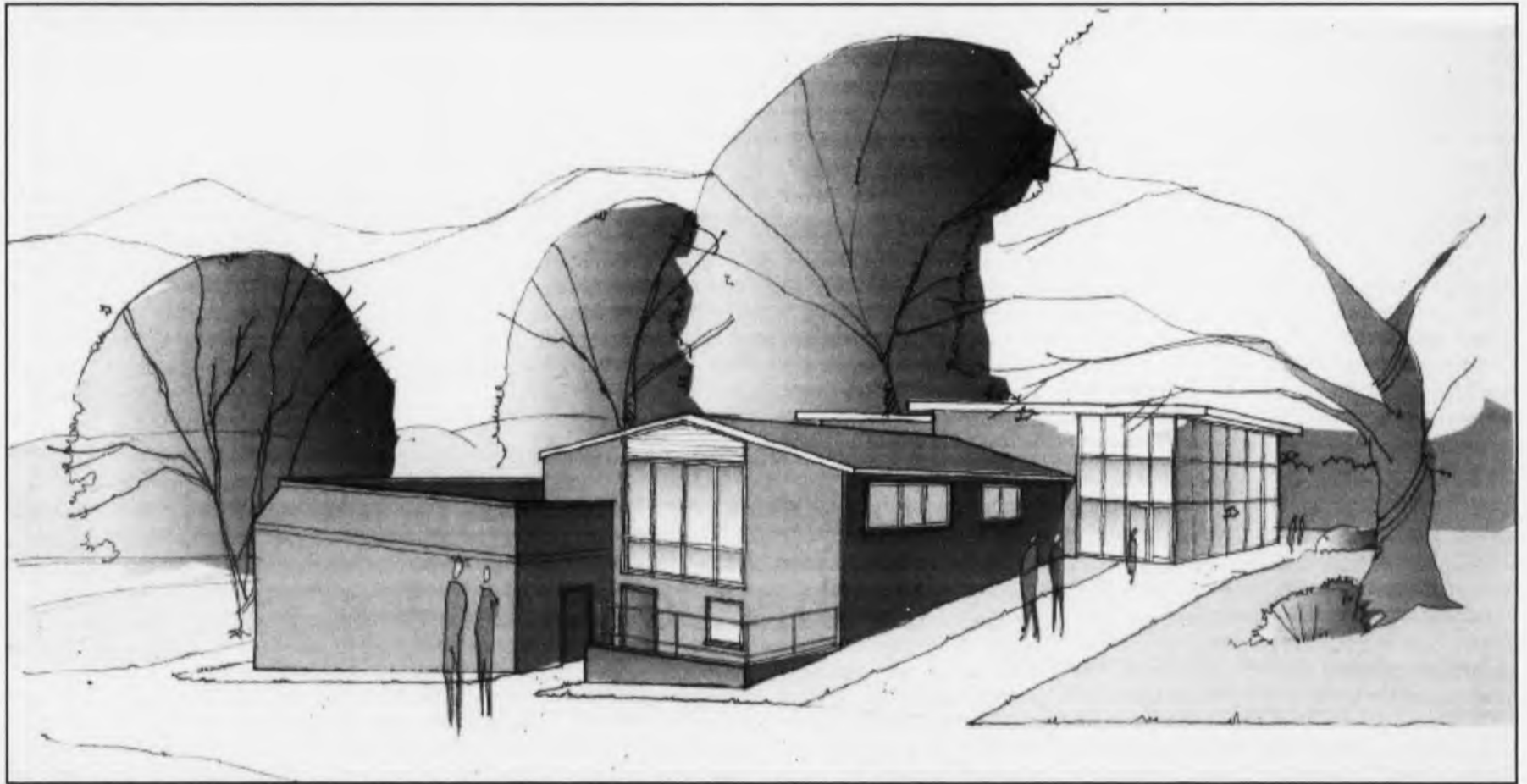
The main plans for the project are to provide two new acting studios, two new music rehearsal spaces and many additional offices and lesson spaces, with the objectives of creating more space for the currently over-scheduled facilities of the departments and also to "acknowledge the centrality [of the departments] within Muhlenberg's overall academic profile," said Rabold.

Dr. Jim Peck of the Department of Theater and Dance, said that in addition to a growing faculty, "the theatre and dance programs have grown very rapidly in recent years; the number of majors in both programs has increased by more than 60% in the last four years." Due to this there is not enough studio space for teaching and rehearsals. In addition, a number of faculty are "located in sub-standard" temporary office space, Peck acknowledged. He also added, "At the moment, in order to offer sufficient class sections to accommodate all of our majors we teach some classes in the lobby of the Trexler Pavilion, and rent space off campus. Students have very little opportunity to rehearse for class or work on their other projects in a properly outfitted rehearsal hall. The top floor of Rehearsal House will contain two new rehearsal

spaces and four additional faculty offices to address these needs." After the renovations are complete, the space will be used to teach classes in acting and directing during the day and at night it will be utilized for various rehearsals.

As for the Music Department, Dr. Doug Ovens, Professor of Music, revealed that "The Music Department has experienced explosive growth over the past ten years. Early in the 1990s we had about eight to ten music majors. Today we have about 85 plus a significant number of music minors. Ten years ago or so we had about 200 students taking individual voice or instrument lessons once a week. Today that number hovers around 350. Put another way, the music department sees about 25% of the entire Muhlenberg College student body every week, either in a class, in individual lessons or in an ensemble such as the Wind Ensemble or Choir." To add, the emergence of new groups akin to the Gospel Choir and Student Composers' Group, means that the aforementioned growth will continue. As a result of the TKE house renovations the electronic music studio will move to a room in the house which will be about 30% larger than the current space allotted for it. Ovens explained, "many students get closed out of my Introduction to Electronic Music course each semester because the size of the room simply does not allow me to increase the enrollment." The renovations will also provide the Music Department with teaching studios and rehearsal spaces for a range of ensembles and bands.

The renovations to the former TKE house are undoubtedly going to be an asset to the Theater, Dance, and Music Departments. The expansion of the three departments are going to benefit countless students and faculty while simultaneously adding to the growing and flourishing atmosphere of the College.



An exterior rendering of the new Rehearsal Hall, formerly the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity house.

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## Senator Specter hosts Town Hall meeting at the College

By Matthew Howard  
MANAGING EDITOR

On Fri., Apr. 3  
Senator Arlen  
Specter (R -

Pennsylvania) hosted a town hall meeting at Muhlenberg on the heels of launching his reelection campaign bid. Students, Allentown residents, and workers union representatives were among the nearly 125 people who attended the event. Over the hour-long meeting, Sen. Specter took questions from, and gave his opinions to, the curious audience.

Sen. Specter began the meeting with a ten-minute introduction, allowing his audience to become familiar with him and some of his policies. Sen. Specter's soft but raspy voice spurned recollections of the late Jimmy Stewart. He spoke of his past visits to Muhlenberg, the honorary degree he received and his relationship to President Helm. He also shared some of his Capitol Hill experiences and a few jokes at his own expense before he took questions.

His first question came from Alex Lotorto '09 who wanted to know Sen. Specter's position on new natural gas facilities in Pennsylvania, which could potentially harm the water supply. Sen. Specter responded with a well-thought-out and well articulated answer in which he stated he wouldn't support the facilities if they harmed the environment.

The second question posed to Sen. Specter came from Muhlenberg's own Dr. Christopher Herrick. Dr. Herrick inquired whether Sen. Specter supports President Bush being charged with war crimes and crimes against humanity. In a short answer, Sen. Specter said he doesn't think President Bush should be charged, suggesting that such a polarizing decision would "divide the nation at a time when unity is most important."

Another Muhlenberg professor, Dr. David Crombecque, cited the recent rash of shootings that transpired, including the infamous shooting that occurred earlier that day in Binghamton, NY, in his question: "With all of the recent

shootings that have occurred in America recently, what is your position on gun control?" While Sen. Specter did agree that shootings seemed to be increasing in number, and that something must be done, he didn't go as far as to support making guns illegal. Rather, he suggested that penalties for gun violations should be made stiffer and act as a deterrent. He also said he supports increasing the wait time to buy guns.

Earlier in the week, Sen. Specter launched his reelection campaign and began advertising on television. In one of his advertisements, Sen. Specter attacks his opponent, Representative Pat Toomey. A supporter of Rep. Toomey asked Sen. Specter whether he plans to conduct the rest of his campaign in the same attack mode as his first ad. In addition, he questioned Sen. Specter's claims in the ad, alleging that the Senator misrepresented facts. Sen. Specter answered the questions saying that the advertisement was a response to an attack by Rep. Toomey on him and that all the facts in the advertisement were indeed facts and not falsifications. He even went as far as to challenge Rep. Toomey to a debate.

Perhaps the most insightful and well thought-out question came, not from a Muhlenberg student or professor, but from an eleven year-old. Showing intelligence and maturity way beyond his years, a sixth grader conveyed his concerns over the growing number of coal plants in Pennsylvania and how they will adversely affect the environment. Sen. Specter seemed to be caught off guard by the question as the same eleven year-old corrected the Senator when he misrepresented what type of emissions coal plants gave off. Sen. Specter did say that America relies on OPEC too much and must encourage researching alternative sources of energy.

After taking questions from the audience and thanking various people, Sen. Specter gave *The Weekly* a few moments of his time to answer a couple of questions. When asked why



Sen. Specter speaking at the meeting.

PHOTO BY BEN LEVINE

Muhlenberg College students should vote to reelect him, Sen. Specter abruptly responded, "I already answered that. I just spoke for over an hour and gave many reasons why you should vote for me." In an instant, the charm and humility the Senator displayed over the previous hour disappeared. Responding to a question of whether or not he supports the legalization of marijuana, Sen. Specter said "No" and walked away.

It's understandable that a high-ranking politician, such as Sen. Specter, can be pressed for time and one could attribute his harsh responses to time constraints, but *The Weekly* has learned the Sen. Specter took the time to talk to union representatives in the parking lot. One can only hope that the Senator gave more time and respect to the union reps than he gave to *The Weekly*, seeing as they are more important to him than *Weekly* reporters.

## Pulitzer Prize winning poet visits the College

By Joseph Armenti  
WEEKLY GUEST WRITER

On April 16, 2009 the literary minds of Muhlenberg College migrated to the A level of the library for a reading from Pulitzer

Prize winning poet, Stephen Dunn. Dunn received a BA in history and English from Hofstra University, attended writing workshops at the New School in New York City, and completed an MA in Creative Writing at Syracuse University. He has won the Pulitzer Prize in poetry for *Different Hours* in 2001, the Academy Award in Literature from The American Academy of Arts & Letters, Fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, and many others.

After a brief introduction by English department head Dr. Grant Scott, a star-struck Emma Bartholomew took the podium to introduce Dunn. Bartholomew, a senior English major and resident Dunn fanatic, took the initiative of arranging the event. Bartholomew explained, "I went to Dr. Scott, and he said, 'Why don't you just call him?'" With that, Bartholomew made the call to Dunn on Valentine's Day morning. Coincidentally, he happened to be reading in Harrisburg and heading over to NYC afterwards making Muhlenberg College an easy pit stop. Bartholomew got her Valentine's Day wish when Dunn accepted the offer.

Bartholomew's introduction infused her excitement into the already eager audience of students, faculty, and even President Helm. "His poems inhabit their own landscapes, dwelling in different positions or orientations each time they are read," explained Bartholomew. Dunn then proceeded to read approximately 20 of his poems from his various collections. His soft

voice and calmly humorous demeanor swept the room as his read. There was one particular aspect of Dunn's presentation style that was different from the usual poetry reading. He truly sought to engage his audience and adjusted his readings accordingly. When the audience seemed to enjoy his funnier pieces, he changed the lineup to make them laugh. Not only did this demonstrate his versatility as a reader and poet, it showed his desire to understand and connect with his audience.

Dunn's work is based on a wide variety of interactions from his life. But Dunn explained, "People are not interested in your life- so learn to use yourself as a vehicle for your poem." Though often providing a chuckle, there is a deeper loneliness hidden beneath his work that rears its head hours after the poem has been heard. Dunn commented, "Yes, loneliness is very present in my work...and particularly interesting is loneliness when you are with someone." Bartholomew captured the affect of his poetry when she said, "His writing is philosophical, resonant, and deeply contemplative, while at the same time embodying images so effectively we wonder if they have not actually happened to us."

Stephen Dunn's presence at the College was an incredible occasion. He gave students the opportunity to experience brilliance in person as a community of scholars. Moreover, he was brought here by one of Muhlenberg's own passionate students. So, for those inspired by Dunn sitting at their desks, in the bistro, or up in a tree trying to write a poem, Dunn suggests, "You need to let your poems get away from you a little so that they may find themselves."



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Kamila '11, climbs rocks; Luke '10, sleeps til noon; Jessica '11, loves Disney World; Jon '10, likes sports

## OFF CAMPUS

### Tattoos From Auschwitz Horror Reunite Lost

Menachem Sholowicz and Anshel Sieradzki stood in line together in Auschwitz, as terrified teenagers 65 years ago, having serial numbers tattooed on their arms. Sholowicz was B-14594; Sieradzki was B-14595. Both were Polish Jews who had never met or spoke and after standing in that line, they were quickly separated yet their stories are strikingly similar. Each survived the Nazi death camp, moved to Israel, married, and became grandfathers. They lived separate lives until a few weeks ago, when they stumbled upon each other through the Internet. Now, the two men speak daily. They immediately found a strong connection and suddenly became like brothers who share their darkest traumas. "We are blood brothers," said Sieradzki, 81. But the story doesn't end there.

Two brothers who were with them in the tattooist's line have made contact since hearing of their story and one of the brothers joined them for a reunion on Sunday at Israel's Holocaust memorial Yad Vashem. All three had tears in their eyes as they embraced and shared painful memories "This is my victory," proclaimed Sieradzki.

The four survivors are among hundreds of thousands of survivors who poured into Israel at the birth of the Jewish state. An estimated 250,000 are still alive in Israel today, carrying the physical and emotional scars of that era. "It is never forgotten, not for a moment," Sieradzki said. "It's like an infected sore deep inside that hurts every time it is exposed."

The unlikely reconnection began when Sholowicz's daughter found a Web site that detailed Sieradzki's journey from Auschwitz to Israel. She took notice because it struck her as eerily similar to her father's. Although the name Sieradzki was not familiar, Sholowicz saw the man's number and he froze. "I rolled up my sleeve and sure enough — I stood exactly ahead of him in line at Auschwitz," he said. The discovery "was a moment of great emotion... We went through it all together. We are like two parallel lines that never met." He then called Sieradzki the following day.

Sieradzki is astounded that they both survived the Holocaust and lived this long. In Auschwitz, "I used to think about getting through the moment, the hour, most the day," he said. "I didn't think about the next day, because I didn't think I was going to live to see the next day." "Our fate was to be together either in life or in death," Sholowicz said. "Now we have life."

### W.P.A. Projects Left Their Stamp on the Region

Works Progress Administration projects from then 1930's, Depression-Era America can be found all over the country. Bethpage State Park, the golf course that is going to be host of the United States Open in June and the old Jersey City Medical center, now an apartment complex in Jersey City that provides a striking view of lower Manhattan are both legacies of government efforts to create jobs and public works projects during the Great Depression.

Both entities were expanded with labor provided by the Works Progress Administration. The W.P.A. was one of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal programs that put millions of people to work all around the country during the Great Depression. "That legacy is all around us," said historian Nick Taylor, author of "American-Made: The Enduring History of the W.P.A." "We just don't see it because we take it for granted."

Yet, the work of the W.P.A. and other New Deal agencies has re-emerged as a model for the Obama administration's massive economic stimulus program. This is seen through its hundreds of billions of dollars devoted to rebuilding and modernizing the nation's infrastructure. The W.P.A. benefited the nation in myriad ways. It built and improved highways, parks, schools and hospitals while simultaneously providing materials for artists to create murals that are still on display in government buildings. Writers also were set to work to compile archives in NJ towns that had limited or no organized records while actors and other performers entertained audiences through the Federal Theater Project, which emerged as a vivacious part of the W.P.A.

For golfers, a visit to Bethpage offers an opportunity to play like the pros — or not. With the assistance of W.P.A. workers, park's clubhouse and four of its five courses, were built and improved with federal relief funds and labor. Golf's greatest names, including Tiger Woods, will use the clubhouse when Bethpage Black plays host to the United States Open. Historian Taylor remarked that the diversity of projects developed by the W.P.A. during the 1930s is astonishing. "So many things might not exist if the W.P.A. hadn't been able to match the talents of workers with specific assignments," Taylor said.

That creativity certainly provides a lesson for today's stimulus spending, which has so far emphasized big public works projects, but not arts and culture.



# COMING SOON!

*Celebrate.*

*Remember.*

*Fight Back.*



Relay for Life: **3** days away!!

Sunday, April 26, 2009

10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Scotty Wood Stadium

Register NOW!!

[www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege](http://www.relayforlife.org/pamuhlenbergcollege)

## Fire at North 23rd Street No injuries and no further danger






During the afternoon of Tues., Apr. 21 there was a fire at 441 North 23rd Street, an off-campus, non-student residence. However, it is located in close proximity to student residences and the Liberty Street Tavern. The Department of Campus Safety and the Allentown Fire Department arrived on the scene within minutes and quickly had the fire under control. The campus was notified via e-mail first regarding the fire and soon after with the assurance that no one had been injured and there was no further danger.

The cause of the fire is unknown at this time and the College is currently working with the student who live in apartments close to the location of the fire. The second notification that was sent also ensured that had there been any cause for further concern, the emergency text messaging system would have been activated and further steps would have been taken. The College is extremely thankful that the incident was quickly brought under control and no one was injured.



# Weekend Weather

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
 <p><b>Partly Cloudy</b>  <b>High: 75</b>  <b>Low: 52</b></p>	 <p><b>Partly Cloudy</b>  <b>High: 82</b>  <b>Low: 52</b></p>	 <p><b>Partly Cloudy</b>  <b>High: 85</b>  <b>Low: 52</b></p>

## Campus Safety Notes

Apr. 13 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 419 Leh St., the carbon monoxide detector had been beeping for several hours. 911 was called for Allentown Fire Department to check the carbon monoxide levels. Plant Operations changed detector batteries. There was no further incident.

Apr. 13 - Motor Vehicle Accident - On Liberty St., there was a report of a driver hitting a parked car and not stopping. Allentown Police Department responded. Both vehicles needed to be towed from the scene. Allentown EMS also responded. The driver was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 14 - Fire Alarm Sounding - At 414 Albright St., a fire alarm sounded due to a sensor malfunction. Simplex was notified to check the system.

Apr. 14 - Found Property - On the Kern Field tennis courts, a reporting party found a set of keys by the courts. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 15 - Larceny/Theft - In Trumbower, there was a report of several stolen items including a kilowatt meter and homework papers. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 16 - Injured Visitor - In Seegers Union, lower level, there was a report of a

Sodexo worker who fell. Muhlenberg EMS responded. The victim refused medical treatment.

Apr. 17 - Suspicious Person - In Prosser Hall, a student reported that a male walked into their room and started looking through stuff and then tried to get into bed. He was a white male with green boxers on. The building was checked, but the suspect was not found. The reporting party recognized the male as a student and believed he may have been intoxicated and confused about what room he was in. It is believed the room door was left unlocked when the entry was made.

Apr. 17 - Freshman with Auto - In the Seegers Union parking lot, there was a freshman with a car. Referred to the Dean of Students office.

Apr. 17 - Found Property - In the East Hall Quad area, a Nerf-type football was found. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 17 - Institutional Vandalism - At 419 Leh St., there was a report of vandalism to the rear storage door area. Nothing appears to have been taken. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 17 - Sick Student - At 2201 Chew St. there was

a report of a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS and the Health Center were notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 18 - Underage Purchase, Possession, Consumption, and Transport - In Martin Luther Hall, third floor, there was a report of a sick student whose illness was alcohol related. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was paged. The student was transported to the hospital. Referred to Judicial.

Apr. 18 - Sick Student - In Prosser Hall, there was a report of a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was paged. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 18 - Fight in Progress - At Phi Kappa Tau (Hillside House), there was a report of a fight in progress. There is no further information at this time.

Apr. 18 - Drug Possession (Marijuana) - In the East Hall Quad area, an employee turned in a small bag of marijuana that was found under a picnic table in the East Quad. The item was placed in the evidence closet.

Apr. 18 - Non-Medical

Transport - In Prosser Hall, there was a report of an injured student. The Health Center was notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 18 - Sick Student - In Brown Hall, first floor, there was a report of a sick student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. Allentown EMS responded and transported the student to the hospital.

Apr. 18 - Vandalism to Vehicle - On campus, there was a report that one of the buses was vandalized the night before. Pictures of the damage were taken. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 19 - Institutional Vandalism - In Walz Hall, a trash container and a cigarette container were dumped. A work order was submitted for clean up. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 19 - Institutional Vandalism - In Brown Hall, a picnic table was turned over. Upon arrival, no table could be located.

Apr. 19 - Institutional Vandalism - In Prosser Hall, a reporting party called about a post taken out from the charcoal container. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 19 - Institutional Vandalism - In the Life Sports Center, there was a report of bleachers on the practice field that was turned over and signs that said "Field Closed" were also turned over. There are no suspects at this time.

Apr. 19 - Harassment - At 330 N. 22 St. (Phi Mu), there was a harassment report from a student. Pictures were taken of the front door and one suspect was identified and contacted to see an officer at Campus Safety. There were no further incidents.

Apr. 19 - Found Property - On campus, a student found an iPod nano a few weeks ago and turned it in. The item was placed in the evidence locker.

Apr. 19 - Injured Student - In the Trexler Pavilion, lower level, there was a report of an injured student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the student was taken to the hospital.

Apr. 19 - Injured Student - In the New Science Building, first floor, there was a report of an injured student. Muhlenberg College EMS responded and the Health Center was notified. The student was transported to the hospital.

Apr. 19 - Lost Property - In Prosser Hall, a student reported losing an iPod.



WEEKLY

# Life!

"Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans."

- John Lennon

## Plain White T's: a huge success

By Jillian Bevacqua  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

The event here at the College was a stop on the Plain White T's full U.S. and Canada headlining tour with supporting acts Single File and Danger Radio. "This is a completely different show, it's not going to be the usual Plain White T's tour. We're doing things a little bit different this time," remarked lead singer Tom on the band's official website.

This "different" approach came in the form of what they band called a "three part harmony," which was not only a concert of three diverse and talented bands, but a three-act performance on the part of the Plain White T's. Their performance was split up with an acoustic section in the middle, during which the five band members sat along the edge of the stage to create a more intimate setting.

The Plain White T's clearly strove for this type of close relationship with their fans, as was seen not only in their performance but during a meet and greet that occurred in the hours before the concert. Members of the MAC Exec Board and Concert Planning Committee were able to meet the Plain White T's, get autographs, and take pictures with the band.

The student winners of WHMU's raffle for a chance to meet the band, Katie McNamara '12 and Sara-Sultanak '09, were also present at the meet and greet and were given the opportunity to, with a few friends, get autographs and pictures as well.

After pictures were taken, the band headed back to their dressing room, which had been set up over the course of the weekend by the Hospitality branch of the Concert Committee, headed by Erica Langner, '11.

The rest of the committee was hard at work as well; set up for the concert had begun early that day. Patrick Fligge, '10, Production Manager, remarked after the successful event that "the concert production went very smoothly, and I enjoyed my experience working with the Plain White T's and their crew."

Andrew Horrow, '10, was head of Security. He also found the concert a success, and after a lot of preparation and hard work, expressed, "The set up was smooth this year and everyone behind the scenes did their jobs. Although it was an all day event due to the stages, lighting, sound, and band equipment coming in pieces there were no major problems. The concert was enjoyed by



The Plain White T's rock out in Memorial Hall.

PHOTO BY JILLIAN BEVACQUA

those who were in attendance. The crowd was well behaved and in bed by 11 p.m. after completing their homework for the next day."

As a whole, students, faculty, and local members of the community in attendance seemed to agree on the night's success. Ticket sales leading up to the concert, during which students could purchase tickets for only five dollars, estimated that roughly 700 people would be in

attendance, but day-of ticket sales placed the total at roughly 900. Opening acts Single File and Danger Radio won over the crowd with fun and engaging numbers, and were greeted by numerous new-found fans at the merchandise table after the show. The Plain White T's, who went onstage around 8:30 to a roaring and energetic crowd, were enjoyed by hundreds of dancing students.



Members of MAC and others with the Plain White T's.

COURTESY OF JILLIAN BEVACQUA

## The Eleventh Annual Henry Awards

By Kelly Frazee  
WEEKLY NEWS EDITOR

The Eleventh Annual Henry Awards took place on Sat., Apr. 18 in the Garden Room. The Student Government, led by Henry Awards Chairpersons Amanda Palmer '11 and Samantha Busa '11, organized the event themed, "Muhlenberg Hot 100." Before the event there was also a reception with hors d'oeuvres by the fireplace in Seegers Union.

At the entrance there was a red balloon arch over the red carpet that ran through the entrance and into the room only to be met by another red carpet which ran from the back of the room all the way up to the stage at the front.

The stage was backed with black and white curtains and lights shown on the white to

make them change colors. The rest of the room was surrounded by red curtains and star-shaped balloons. Throughout the night, music from the decades, starting with the 1960's, was either performed by various a capella groups or played through speakers.

Hosts Kamila Jacob '11 and Alexander Kennedy '09 opened the night by welcoming all of the guests, who filled just about every seat in the transformed Garden Room.

The night started off with a bang as the Soul Sound Steppers, Perkulators, Copasetic Rhythms, and Mint\* delivered fun, high-energy performances.

The Henry Awards, which are

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**HENRY**  
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designed to bring recognition to achievements on campus throughout the past year. The selections committee comprised of students, faculty and administrators chose one winner for each category out of the 500-plus nominations that were sent in. All of the award categories and winners were announced by students and faculty.

The first award given was Rookie of the Year. This award recognizes an outstanding freshman student who has found their place here at the College and has already made a significant impact. The winner was Rachel Jakubowicz '12.

The next award, Visual or Performing Artist of the Year was awarded to Donna Ward '09, who has been in various theater and music productions, and is also a founding member of both Noteworthy and the Gospel Choir. Female Athlete of the Year followed and was awarded to Track and Field record breaker, Alexandra Faust '12.

Following suit, Male Athlete of the Year was awarded to football star John Deluca '09. The next category was Residential Advisor of the Year, awarded to current Head Resident Advisor of Prosser Hall, Craig Marone '09. Then there was a short break from the awards and everyone was taken back to the 60's during Noteworthy's performance of *Morning Glow*.

The next grouping of awards started with the Helping Hand category. This award is given to a student who has made continuous and successful efforts in community service and was awarded to Katherine Bemis '09. Following was, Outstanding Community Service Project of the



Year which was awarded to Jefferson Field Day.

Next were Male Greek Leader of the Year and Female Greek Leader of the Year, awarded to Alexander Kennedy '09 and Christina Vergos '09, respectfully. Excellence in Diversity Programming then followed with the winner being Eric Thompson '10. There was another short break that followed, during which the Gospel Choir took everyone back to the 70's with a song of worship.

The second half of the awards started with the Muhlenberg Improvisation Association (M.I.A.) winning the category of Visual or

Performing Group of the Year, followed by Intramural Sports winning Organization of the Year. Jenna Piccininni '10 was awarded Unsung Hero for her humble dedication to the various campus activities that she is involved in. Women's Basketball was awarded Sports Team of the Year, then Greek Organization of Year went to Phi Kappa Tau and 3 vs. 3 Intramural Basketball won Event of the Year. The Dynamics then took the audience on a throwback to the 80's with the song *Never Gonna Give You Up*. Richard Begbie, Assistant Director of Plant Operations, then got a standing ovation after winning the Lifetime Achievement award for outstanding support, dedication, and contributions to the College.

Next up were the People's Choice categories. Chef Sherry Gergar won the People's Choice Support Staff Award and Mike Bruckner was People's Choice Management. The People's Choice Faculty award was won by Professor of Philosophy, Dr. Larry Hass and was followed by a trip down memory lane for most of the young adult audience as they were taken back to the 90's by Girls Next Door. The last award was the People's Choice Student Leader, which was awarded to Adrian Shanker '09.

Hosts Jacob and Kennedy then closed the event by once again thanking everyone for attending and also acknowledging everyone who made the event possible.

**AMC**

**Weekend Listings**



**17 Again**

Fri. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sat. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30  
Sun. 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

**Earth**

Fri. 5:20, 7:40, 10:15  
Sat. 5:20, 7:40, 10:15  
Sun. 5:20, 7:40, 10:15

**Fast & Furious**

Fri. 4:50, 7:30, 10:00  
Sat. 4:50, 7:30, 10:00  
Sun. 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

**Fighting**

Fri. 5:00, 7:50, 10:20  
Sat. 5:00, 7:50, 10:20  
Sun. 5:00, 7:50, 10:20

**The Soloist**

Fri. 4:15, 7:00, 9:50  
Sat. 4:15, 7:00, 9:50  
Sun. 4:15, 7:00, 9:50

**State of Play**

Fri. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10  
Sat. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10  
Sun. 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

**Monsters vs. Aliens**

Fri. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sat. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30  
Sun. 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

**SENIOR QUESTION OF THE WEEK:  
WHAT THREE WORDS DESCRIBE YOUR  
MUHLENBERG EXPERIENCE?**



"Sorry it's over!"  
-Luanne Linares '09  
Editor-In-Chief



"Corrie, Laura, Louisa!"  
- Victoria Davis '09  
Executive Editor



Con"GRAD"ulations!



"Gonna miss it!"  
- Rebecca Unger '09  
Copy Editor



"I'm coming back!"  
- Rachel Majszak '09  
Asst. Op/Ed Editor

Compiled by The Weekly Staff



## Summer lovin'... is it worth the wait?

By Rachel Jaye  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

A lot of people have recently asked me "What are going to do about the summer?" It's not exactly about summer jobs. One word: Relation-ship...STATUS. Because lots of us like to think about those lazy summer days of endless movies, trips to the shore, and plenty of time with family and friends, no one wants to answer the open-ended question at the end of the school year - what do we do now?

Once May 8 rolls around, couples all over Muhlenberg will be asking themselves that inevitable question. I'm sorry to say, I don't have a clear answer, but there are pros and cons to sticking with that special someone.

One of the things that constantly stick in my mind is the emotional attachment. Two people who are pretty into one another could agree that when the SUVs and moving trucks pull out of the dorm parking lots, it's siyanara sucka!

But can we really just turn off our feelings like a shower or sink spigot? I think not, my friends. We can all agree that the strings will release and those happy couples will be happy singles, but I don't think that's the case.

When you really enjoy someone's company, how can you just say goodbye to them? However, I know that keeping things hanging on without the constant visits from ML to East or Brown to Prosser can be pretty difficult with about 200 miles in between two lovebirds.

A phrase that constantly rolls off my tongue is "absence makes the heart grow fonder!" I wonder if whoever said this had to do a long-distance relationship in between semesters; if so, he or she could give some solid advice I bet!

Unfortunately there are loopholes in doing a long-distance relationship over the heat-waved months of June, July, and most of August. There are the ever popular "friends with benefits" or "open relationships." This may be all fine and dandy at first, but someone always ends up getting hurt in the end. Is it really worth the risk?

If two people like each other enough to do what kids do these days, why not just call it even and become - 'scuse the popular phrase - "exclusive?"

I mean, yeah there might be the issue of distance, but how would it work out? Tuesday is \_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank) day and then

Saturday is for someone else. This spreads problems, and sometimes diseases, people!

Play it safe and try monogamy...it's an age-old practice and it has worked for a lot of people.

Again, if this isn't your style, I completely understand, disregard my ideas.

Luckily due to modern day technology, there are ways of dodging the X amount of miles bullet. Three little words to you weary ladies and gents.

Planes, trains, and automobiles. Sometimes traveling to see that person closest to your heart might cost a pretty penny, but I'm sure it's worth it. Try doing some research.

Look for the closest Amtrak station or closest airport terminal. Maybe split the cost with Mom and Dad, I'm sure they would understand.

Another ever popular destination spot could be meeting halfway. You go 50 percent, the other person goes 50 and you've got a perfect 100.

If you are both willing to make the effort then it will most likely work.

However, if one of you lives in an urban city, and the other person lives in the backwoods of the Rocky Mountains, then one of you might have to give a little more before you can get any. Ha. Ha.

At the end of the day, if there is someone around Chew Street who holds your heart, keep on holding! I guess I'm just an optimist. After all, it's only a few months, right? Uh...right! You never know, a few months apart could definitely strengthen your relationship, whether you've been together for over a year, or just a semester.

Just know that no matter what decision the two of you make, there are many more people out there who are in the same shoes as you, so never feel alone. While you're sitting by the pool sipping a piña colada or babysitting your little brother, there is another Mule out there who is missing someone as well.

Like my Mom says, "College is like a roller coaster. You have to get on, hold on tight, and scream as loud as you can!" Wow, get your head out of the gutter, readers! Seriously though? Just hold on tight and get ready for a wild ride!

By Kevin Tomasaṛa  
WEEKLY LIFE COLUMNIST

By the time you're reading this article, there will be only 7 class days left. Seven. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven. That's only one more than six, and at times one less than eight. In just the most vicious number of days (for we all know, seven eight nine), classes will be over. There will be only finals left to study for, unless of course you are involved in either the liberal or arts part of a liberal arts education, in which case you probably don't have any finals at all, nor anything you could call "studying" to do. Just think about that for a moment. Put down the paper (for just a second please, I do have a point to make after all), and just think about that. Soon there will be no more homework, no more tests, and no more... well there will be no more of a lot of things. In fact, in

seven days there will be no more of plenty of things besides just homework, and a whole lot more of things in their place. In fact, in seven days, this bubble will pop and the temporary illusionary reality of college will lift its veil from your eyes. For first years like me, that's a lot of adjusting to do, and for seniors... well I won't even go there, you already know.

If I have not yet reiterated this point enough, within seven days, a whole slew of things are going to be turned on their heads. The routines of college will fade away, as 4 months of freedom (or work) will take their place. For more than 5 days at a time you will be able to avoid garden room, and that means that for more than 5 days at a time you might be able to avoid some bar of things that are not best served in bar form. That's good to know. Still, I have to wonder what comes after those seven days, when you're back in the house with my parents, and the freedoms of college begin to be naught but a distant memory. What I'm talking about of course is something many have to

think about: the difference between college love, and summer love.

This split has obviously has two sides, but each has its pros and cons, and their own lovers and haters. For some, as college and its influence begins to disappear, so will the influence of those who made it fun. As we disband and go our separate ways, friends will be torn apart and thrown across vast differences. Relationships will be tested and strained, even challenged at every turn. By the time we return next fall, a new light will be cast. But for some, this light might not be so bad. For some, this summer means an escape, maybe a second chance. For some it is that great catalyst they have been waiting for, and others it is the one they have feared for some time. For single people, summer is just pretty awesome, and so is summer love.

Summer love: it's the topic of such great literary classics as *Grease*, and *Grease II*, and I guess *American Pie*, and also *American Pie II*, and I suppose also the fan-favorite *American Wedding*, the genre-defining *American Pie Presents: Band Camp*, the critically acclaimed, *American Pie Presents: The Naked Mile* and of course the futuristic film noir cult classic, *American Pie Presents: American Pie In Space and Back in Da Hood III Ft. Leprechaun*.

Obviously, summer love is to many, more than broken hearts - it is a chance to start again. For many first years, returning from college will give them some serious cred, and an absolute boost to their sex appeal. Almost all younger girls love those indie college boys, and who wouldn't swoon at the newer, less prepubescent, more "experienced," and probably weakly bearded version of your ex-boyfriend? The answer: no one! Summer love is a chance to escape those pesky tied down relationships you forged in college, and of course you can also escape those "rumors" of all your failed sexcapades. Summer love is freedom; it's like Woodstock, but longer! Upon a second glance, I take back everything I said earlier, there are no two sides to the argument. Quite simply, summer is awesome and I'm pretty excited. So there. Here's to a good summer, and to some good summer lovin'.

## Battle of the Sexes

Write for Life...  
there's always next  
year!



## This week on campus

Thurs. Apr. 23

- "Assessing Obama's Foreign Policy at One Hundred Days"
- 7:00 – 9:00 pm in Moyer's Miller Forum
  - Sponsored by the Center for Ethics
  - Lecture by John Hamre, Center for Strategic and International Studies
  - For more information, contact Cynthia Amaya at x3228 or camaya@muhlenberg.edu

Fri. Apr. 24

- Muhlenberg Chamber Orchestra
- 8:00 – 10:00 pm in Empie Theater
  - The Orchestra will present their spring concert
  - Free admission
  - For more information, contact RuthAnn Bartlett at x3363 or rbartlett@muhlenberg.edu
- Big Smile Caricatures and Name Creations
- 9:00 pm – 1:00 am in Seegers Lobby
  - Have a fun caricature done and see your name in a great design
  - For more information, contact Bev MacEwan at x3958

Sat. Apr. 25

- Muhlenberg Wind Ensemble
- 8:00 – 10:00 pm in Empie Theater
  - The Orchestra will present their spring concert
  - Free admission
  - For more information, contact RuthAnn Bartlett at x3363 or rbartlett@muhlenberg.edu

Sun. Apr. 26

- Relay for Life
- 10:00 am – 10:00 pm at the Scotty Wood Stadium/Marino Field
  - Come relay for a cause
  - For more information, contact Adam Hirsh at x6397 or ah233933@muhlenberg.edu

Mon. Apr. 27

Finding Your Niche: A Conversation with the Health Professions Advisor

- 3:00 – 4:00 pm in Taylor 08 for current freshmen
- 6:00 – 7:00 pm in Taylor 08 for current sophomores
- Come and get your questions answered
- For more information, contact Lori Provost at x3427 or provost@muhlenberg.edu

Mike Levin Documentary

- 8:00 – 10:00 pm in Seegers Red Door
- Watch a documentary about the life and death of a Philadelphia native who moved to Israel to join the army and was killed in the summer of 2006
- For more information, contact Hillel at x3270 or hillel@muhlenberg.edu

Wed. Apr. 29

2009 Senior Art Exhibit

- Noon – 9:00 pm in the Martin Art Gallery
- Features senior art majors' work as a result of their year-long participation in the Senior Art Seminar
- For more information, contact Kathryn Burke at x3467 or kburke@muhlenberg.edu

End of the Year Reminders:

- Thurs. Apr. 30 – Last Day of Classes
- Fri. May 1 – Performance Day
- Sat. May 2 & Sun. May 3 – Study Days
- Mon. May 4 – Fri. May 8 – Final Examinations
- Sat. May 16 – Baccalaureate
- Sun. May 17 – Commencement

## This week in history

On April 23, 1988, Pink Floyd's album *Dark Side of the Moon* leaves the Billboard 200 chart for its first time after spending a record of 741 consecutive weeks (over 14 years) on the chart. Released in the United States on March 17, 1973, it is the band's most commercially successful releases. The album is frequently ranked by music critics as one of the greatest and most influential albums of all time. Since its release, the album has sold over 40 million copies, going platinum 15 times, making it the eighth best selling album of all time.

On April 24, 1907, Hershey Park, founded by Milton S. Hershey, was opened for the exclusive use of his employees. Located in Hershey, Pennsylvania, the park currently covers over 120 acres and has over sixty rides and attractions for both the employees and the public. Hershey Park is located right next to Hershey's Chocolate World. Opened in June 1973, the Chocolate World offers shops and restaurants, and the famous free chocolate tour ride. In 1986, Hershey welcomed its 20 millionth visitor.

On April 25, 1953, Francis Crick and James Watson published *Molecular structure of nucleic acids: a structure for deoxyribose nucleic acid* describing the double helix structure of DNA. Much of the research was done in the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories on Long Island, New York. In 1962, Watson and Crick jointly received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. The discovery of the structure of DNA has become the basis for molecular biology. Crick died in 2004 due to colon cancer, and Watson, still alive at the age of 81, continues to research what has become one of the greatest scientific discoveries.

On April 26, 1986, a nuclear reactor accident occurred at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in the Soviet Union (now Ukraine), creating the world's worst nuclear disaster. It resulted in a severe release of radioactivity into the environment. It is estimated that over 400 times more fallout was released than had been by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan during World War II. The plume drifted over Asia, Europe, and eastern North America. Large areas in current-day Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia were badly contaminated, resulting in the evacuation and resettlement of over 330,000 people. There were 56 direct deaths, and an estimated 600,000 people suffered radiation exposure. Although the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and certain limited areas still remain off limits, the majority of affected areas are now considered safe for human settlement. Taking inflation into account, the overall cost of the disaster is estimated to be around \$200 billion. This places the disaster as the most costly disaster in modern history.

On April 27, 2006, construction began on the Freedom Tower at the site of the World Trade Center in New York City. On December 19, 2006, the first steel columns were installed in the building's foundation. Three other high-rise office buildings are planned for the site and will surround the World Trade Center Memorial, currently under construction to remember the over 2,000 lives lost in New York City on September 11, 2001. The building will stand a symbolic 1,776 feet, marking the year of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. It was originally planned to be the tallest building in the world, but will no longer obtain the title, as the Burj Dubai, located in the capital of the United Arab Emirates, has already broken the record at 2,684 feet tall. It is estimated that it will be completed in mid-2014.

On April 28, 1952, Dwight D. Eisenhower resigned as the first Supreme Commander of NATO. A five-star general in the U. S. Army, he served as Supreme Commander of the Allied forces in Europe during World War II with the responsibility of planning and supervising the successful invasion of France and Germany in 1945. Shortly after serving in the Army, Eisenhower was elected President of the United States and served from 1953-1961. As President, he oversaw the cease-fire of the Korean War, launched the Space Race, and began the Interstate Highway System. Also during his administration, he oversaw the admission of Alaska and Hawaii to the Union in 1959.

On April 29, 1945, the Dachau concentration camp in Germany was liberated by United States troops. In 1933, Dachau was one of the first concentration camps opened by the Nazis. In total, over 200,000 prisoners from more than 30 countries were housed in Dachau, of whom two-thirds were political prisoners and one-third were Jews. Over 25,000 prisoners are believed to have died in the camp and another 10,000 prisoners died in its sub-camps. At the time American troops stormed the camp, the soldiers found approximately 32,000 prisoners. The camp was one of the first to be liberated and holds a significant place in public memory. The camp was later the site of the Dachau trials where U.S. soldiers convicted minor war crimes criminals and now stands as a memorial.





**HOCKEY**  
FROM PAGE 18

who loves celebrations in any sport, whether it's soccer, hockey, basketball, rugby, or curling. I will watch until the end of the game just to see the players go crazy after they have won it all. But hockey is the best one, because in no sport is there enough loose equipment to fly through the air.

Remember Jason Arnott's overtime goal for the New Jersey Devils when they won the Cup? Moments like those, where everyone piles on the ice, and gloves, helmets, sticks, etc., fly through the air... those are the moments that I look forward to all year.

**1. The Cup Lift**

I respect any winner, no matter what. I don't care if my team just lost, or if the team took 36 penalties in one game. In football, you can go on a hot streak and win three or four games to win the Super Bowl. In college basketball, you can go on a hot streak and win six games in a row to be the National Champions. But in hockey, and basketball, you cannot win 16 games in a row on a hot streak. Even the Canadiens never did that. You win the Cup, you're pretty damn good.

I have a great deal of respect for anyone who wins the Stanley Cup, because to work hard all your life and finally get to that moment, is a won-

derful thing. When you look at the world we live in and can say, "We are the World Champions," it's a beautiful thing.

That is all symbolized with the first lift of the Cup, and the passing of it from teammate to teammate. No contract in the world can buy that: it's priceless.

Get pumped, everyone!

*Alan Bass is a Senior Writer for Bleacher Report, the Community Leader for the NHL and Philadelphia Flyers section, and a writer for Prohockeynews.com, Insidehockey.com, and Hockeybarn.com. You can contact him at ALN424@aol.com.*

**Sports Schedule****Women's Tennis**

Thurs., Apr. 23 vs. Washington, 5:00

**Softball**

Thurs., Apr. 23 at Moravian, 3:00

**Baseball**

Thurs., Apr. 23 at Susquehanna, 4:00

Sat., Apr. 25 at Washington, 12:30 (DH)

Sun., Apr. 26 vs. DeSales at Coca-Cola Park, 5:00

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# Ten reasons to get pumped for the Playoffs

By Alan Bass  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

As Jim Mora said, "playoffs? We're talking about play-

offs?"

Damn right, Jim. The most exciting time of year, and the most important part of any hockey fan's year, no matter what age. The playoffs can make a 65 year-old retired man act the same as a 13 year-old child. The playoffs can do anything.

Everyone knows anything can happen in the playoffs. They can bring tears to every person, each for different reasons. It may be happiness for some, sadness for others, or anger that your team was so close and simply couldn't get it done. The playoffs bring out emotions in men that women did not think we were capable of having.

Everyone has their favorite moments of the playoffs, and the things they are most excited for. Here are mine:

## 10. The best hockey all year

Everyone knows that the best hockey occurs during the NHL playoffs. Remember that triple overtime game in the Stanley Cup finals last season? It was easily the best hockey game I have ever seen in my decade and a half of being a hockey fan. We get those kinds of games all the time though. Ask any hockey fan and they will tell you how amazing overtime is in the playoffs.

Best overtime of any sport, no questions asked.

## 9. Chicago Charade

The Chicago Blackhawks have finally made it back to the playoffs, and are an extremely talented team.

It isn't luck this year; this team is good. With Pat Kane, Captain Jonathan Toews, and the rest

of the gang, this team has the potential to do a bit of damage in the playoffs.

## 8. Battle of Pennsylvania

Last year, the Battle of Pennsylvania was more of a massacre, with the Flyers losing their top two defensemen to injury and not having one of their top players in Simon Gagne.

With a healthy squad this postseason, will the battle be even more exciting than ever?

## 7. Crazy Fans

This is the time of year when the fans become crazy. And the crazy fans become insane. And the insane fans...well, you get the point. Just stand outside any NHL arena before a playoff game (you know, in cities that actually care about hockey), and you will see this in no time. Faces painted, hair colored, people screaming; everything is beautiful.

## 6. Replica Stanley Cups

Many of you will not know what I'm talking about unless you personally go to a game.

This time of year, the miniature Stanley Cups come out to the stadiums, and boy are they creative. Tin foil, silver, pewter, any other kind of metal that looks silvery, people are extremely creative when it comes to re-creating the best trophy in the world.

I must confess, when I was young, I made a Stanley Cup out of paper. Needless to say, it did not work, because the Cup was kind of top heavy, and paper does not weigh much.

## 5. Upsets

I love upsets, with all my heart. You know, unless my team is the favorite.

Seriously, upsets are what make sports great. You don't see movies about the undefeated team beating the weak little squad. You see multi-million dollar motion pictures about the team that

no one thought would do anything, teams who defeated that monster of a team.

I'm looking at you, Anaheim and San Jose.

## 4. Commissioner Bettman

The only time of year that Bettman actually shows his face is after the Stanley Cup finals when he presents the Stanley Cup to the winning team.

This is on my favorites list, because it gives me another opportunity to make fun of our Commissioner before the best moment of the season arrives. Why does Bettman get to touch the Cup, he never won anything? It is that one sentence where everyone sits and thinks, "Gary Shut up."

## 3. Fights

No, not the fights that everyone is trying to outlaw. Not those wussy staged fights where the conversation goes like this:

Skater 1: Hey, want to fight?

Skater 2: I don't know, I just got my nails done.

Skater 1: Come onnnnnn.

Skater 2: Eh, my coach may not be happy. And I'm not getting paid for these games.

Skater 1: You're a d\*\*\*\*ebag, you know that?

Skater 2: WHAT??? YOU HORRIBLE SACK OF...

(And the fight ensues)

Those are boring. There is none of this fighting in the playoffs, just the rough battles in the corners and tussles in front of the nets that lead to all out brawls. I want 5-on-5 fights that occur from the emotion of the playoffs. That's why this time of year is so exciting.

2. Equipment flying, sticks chucked, hugs, hugs, and more hugs

I am that person

SEE HOCKEY  
PAGE 15

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# IM State of the Union



## Katz' Korner

Matt Katz  
WEEKLY SPORTS COLUMNIST

With the IM calendar nearly over, the IM Directors felt now would be an appropriate time for an update on the well being of the league, a "State of the Union" if you will:

Last weekend marked two major events for Muhlenberg Intramurals. First on Thursday night, the inaugural Intramural Formal was held, and on Saturday, the Intramural Sports program received two Henry Awards (left). The Formal, which started as nothing more than a joke a few months, was truly an amazing night. Over 100 students loaded the buses and headed to Rookies, all dressed in their finest attire of course. With the addition of some students who met the group at the event, the estimated attendance of the night was around 120, which may even be a bit on the conservative side. All who attended had a great time, and the event overall was a huge success. On behalf of the IM directors, thank you to everyone who attended, and to those who did not, less than 12 months until next

years formal!

On Saturday, the Intramural Program was honored by receiving not one, but two Henry Awards. For all the students who participate and make IM sports what they are, those Henry Awards are for you! For both the Organization of the Year and the Event of the Year, Intramural Sports topped some impressive competition in being honored as the best at Muhlenberg. For Organization of the Year, it was the large numbers and diversity of participants that swung the award for IMs. With a staggering 22 softball teams, Intramurals' yearly totals have surpassed the 600 student mark, with over 100 different teams in 5 different sports. Those statistics have grown substantially over last years' statistics, and we can only hope next year even more students come out and join us.

The reigning event of the year, the IM 3 on 3 Tournament, is scheduled for its second annual tournament coming up on May 2. Held on

a Saturday afternoon, this year's event promises to be even better than last years'. With 3 separate divisions, the "varsity" for teams with a maximum of one varsity player; the "A" league for the competitive teams without a varsity player, and a separate divisions for Women's players, the turnout is expected to surpass last years total of 120 participants. The event will include trophies and prizes, as well as snacks for all players, so come out on Saturday, May 2, and enjoy a great day of basketball!

IM Sports is proud of the year it has accomplished. With memories of great games, tears of disappointing defeats, friendships made, and even a romantic relationship created, IM Sports has grown into a program everyone can be proud of. And for those of you who have not been involved with the program, next year is a new year with the same, and hopefully even better, opportunities for all to participate and have a great time.



Left: Team Wish smiles as they celebrate their IM A-League Championship; Right: The winners of the Scotty Wood 3-on-3 Tournament.



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# THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY

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## Muhlenberg Track drops times, records at Spring Invitational

By Kim O'Brien  
WEEKLY SPORTS WRITER

Last weekend's warm weather spelled fast times for several members of Muhlenberg's Track and Field team. The team traveled to nearby Moravian to compete among Division I, II, and III schools at the Greyhound Invitational.

The Mules saw seven ECAC qualifying-performances at the meet, including junior Brendan Kirk (400 hurdles, 4x100, 4x400), senior Stuart Udis (800), senior David Chorney (1500), junior Jennifer Lynch (1500), and the women's 4x100 team of Jenna Schaffer, '12, Lucy Brock, '09, Amanda Martini, '09, and Alex Faust, '10.

The women's 4x100 squad posted the second-fastest time in school history. On the men's side, Udis' 800 meter run (1:53:08) almost eclipsed the meet record of 1:52.84, and narrowly missed the NCAA provisional mark of 1:53.00.

In other track news, Muhlenberg claimed both the men and women's title for Centennial Conference title Athlete of the Week. Chorney and Faust were named track and field athletes of the week on April 14, after both had record-breaking performances at the Bucknell Outdoor Classic, held April 11.

Chorney broke the 5,000 meter school record with a time of 14:48.02, and was just 3 seconds off of the NCAA provisional standard. He placed 12th in the Bucknell race, beating out Division I runners at the highly competitive meet. Faust broke her own pole vault record with a vault of 12'3.5", placing her among the top Division III athletes in the event. Faust also set a school record in the 400 meters (57.97) and was part of the ECAC-qualifying 4X400 meter relay team.

The Mules travel to Lehigh University on Saturday, April 25 for the Lehigh Games. The Centennial Conference Championship will be held May 1-3 at Franklin and Marshall College.



Top: Junior Brendan Kirk helps the Mules' 4x400 relay team to the fourth fastest time in the College's history; Bottom: Marc Brookland triple jumps his way to victory

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